

THE  
**Nonconformist.**

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 430.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]



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The term commences on Wednesday, January 18, 1854.

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N.B.—A FEW VACANCIES for Private Pupils.

**HENRY VINCENT, Esq.**, will deliver  
TWO ORATIONS at Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate-street, on  
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MONDAY.—Subject: "The Material and Political Power of  
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TUESDAY.—"A few Passages from the Constitutional History  
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Chair to be taken at a Quarter-past Eight precisely. Admis-  
sion, single lecture, back seats, 6d; reserved seats, 1s. The two  
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Tickets may be obtained of Messrs. Cash and Co., Bishopsgate-  
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**GALVANIC BELT** without acid, for the cure of diseases,  
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In no article perhaps is caution more necessary than in  
the purchase of a Dressing-Case, for in none are the meretricious  
arts of the unprincipled manufacturer more frequently displayed.  
MECHI, 4, LEADENHALL STREET, near Gracechurch Street,  
has long enjoyed the reputation of producing a Dressing-Case in  
the most finished and faultless manner. Those who purchase  
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The prices range from £1 to £100. Thus the man of fortune and  
he of moderate means may alike be suited, while the traveller will  
find the Mechian Dressing-Case especially adapted to his necessities.  
—4, LEADENHALL STREET.

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**THE Rev. J. J. WAITE**, will LECTURE,

EXPLAIN his SYSTEM, and CONDUCT CLASSES, at  
LONDON: BEAUMONT INSTITUTION, BEAUMONT-SQUARE,  
MILE-END, on TUESDAY EVENINGS, Jan. 17, to March 7.  
PARK CHAPEL, CAMDEN-TOWN, WEDNESDAY EVEN-  
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Books and Memoranda, admitting to the whole Course, may be  
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Letters to the Rev. J. J. Waite should be addressed to his resi-  
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ESTABLISHED 1726.

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A List of Articles, with prices annexed, sent post free on application.

Orders with remittances promptly executed, and delivered at any of the Metropolitan Railway Stations.

C. and L. particularly recommend their TOWN TALLOW-MADE CANDLES.

Price's and Palmer's Composite and Metallic Candles at manufacturer's prices.

Purchasers of C. and L.'s celebrated Stamped Soaps will have the full amount of benefit accruing from the repeal of the duty.

THE BUDGET OF 1853.

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High-scented and Rich-flavoured Flowery ASSAM, reduced from 4s. 4d. to 4s. per lb.

Our CHOICE MIXTURE of the Best Black and Green Teas, comprising all the excellences of the richest and rarest productions of China and Assam judiciously blended, 4s. per lb.

OUCHAIN YOUNG HYSION, HYSION, and PEARL GUNPOWDER 5s. 8d., 5s., 4s. 4d., 4s., 3s. 8d., and 3s. 4d. per lb.

All these are of the prime quality and most delicious flavour. Lower qualities at proportionately reduced prices.

Choice MOCHA COFFEE, rich and mellow, of great strength, 1s. 4d. per lb.

Very excellent PLANTATION CEYLON, packed in Tin Canisters, fresh and warm from the Mill, 1s. per lb.

HIND'S GREAT CENTRAL TEA ESTABLISHMENT, corner of NORTH-STREET, KING'S-CROSS (the third turning from the Great Northern Terminus, City side).

Wholesale Depot for

HIND'S CELEBRATED ONE SHILLING PARISIEN SAUCE.

P. O. Orders to be made payable to ANDREW HIND, at the Office, King's-cross.

## SIR WILLIAM BURNETT'S PATENTS.

## IN the year 1838 Patents were granted to

Sir William Burnett, M.D., F.R.S., Director-General of the Medical Department of the Royal Navy, for the use of Chloride of Zinc, as applied to the preservation of Timber, Canvases, Cordage, Cotton, Woolen, and other articles, from Rot, Mildew, Moth, &c.; and in 1852 her Majesty was pleased to grant an extension for seven years. Parties using Chloride of Zinc for any such purposes must purchase the same from the Proprietors of the Patents, at their Office, No. 18, Cannon-street, London-bridge; and any person using it without license will be proceeded against for infringement of their Patents.

N.B.—The Prize Medal of 1851 was awarded by the Royal Commissioners for Sir William Burnett's Patent.

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## BEAUTIFUL HAIR, WHISKERS, EYE-

BROWS, &c.—The most surprising, efficacious, and elegant preparation ever introduced for the growth of Hair, Whiskers, &c., is ROSALIE COUPELLE'S CRINUTRIAL. Thousands who were once bald, have now splendid heads of natural hair; and a still greater number who were once utterly destitute of beard or Whisker, have now these attributes of manhood in attractive luxuriance. Numerous similarly-named imitations have been, from time to time, put forth, accompanied by testimonials, each and all as spurious as the article they represent. Persons who have been thus deceived will find that the genuine article has no parallel in the growth, curling, and general improvement of the Hair, Whiskers, &c., as also checking greyness. For children it is indispensable, forming the basis of a beautiful head of hair.

In Pots and Bottles, 2s. each, with full directions, through all Druggists and Perfumers, or sent free on receipt of 24 postage stamps, by ROSALIE COUPELLE, British and Foreign Perfumery Establishment, 35, FLY-PLACE, HOLBORN-HILL, LONDON.

CAUTION.—Do not be persuaded to purchase any other articles from which the vendor obtains a larger profit. The GENUINE has the signature, "ROSALIE COUPELLE" in red letters on a white ground, on the stamp round each packet.

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May be obtained through all Chemists and Perfumers; but should difficulty occur, send postage stamps to ROSALIE COUPELLE, BRITISH AND FOREIGN PERFUMERY ESTABLISHMENT, FLY-PLACE, HOLBORN-HILL, LONDON.

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SARL and SONS, WATCH MANUFACTURERS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), invite attention to their new and very extensive STOCK of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES. The patterns are of the latest style, and the movements of the most highly-finished description. Every make can be had. The following prices will convey an outline of the Stock, combining economy with quality:—

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Watches of the Horizontal make, jewelled in four holes, main-taining power, 1st size.....	£ 4 0 0	£ 2 18 0
Ditto, 2nd size.....	7 10 0	3 3 0
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Ditto with the flat, fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in ten extra holes, 3rd size.....	14 14 0	5 18 0

A written warranty for accurate performance is given with every watch, and a twelvemonths' trial allowed. A very extensive and splendid assortment of fine gold neck-chains; charged according to the weight of sovereigns.

A pamphlet, containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis.—Address,

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## SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

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A Policy for £1,000, opened in 1832, is now increased to £1,508 9s 4d

" 1,000, " 1835, " 1,407 18 7

" 1,000, " 1840, " 1,297 15 7

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ROBERT CHRISTIE, Manager, WILLIAM FINLAY, Secretary, W. COOK, Agent, 126, Bishopsgate-street, London.

December, 1853.

## NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—48, GRACECHURCH-STREET, LONDON.

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John Feltham, Esq. Charles Whetham, Esq.

Charles Gilpin, Esq.

TRUSTEES.

Samuel H. Lucas, Esq. Charles Lushington, Esq.

PHYSICIANS.

J. T. Conquest, M.D., F.R.S. Thomas Hodgkin, M.P.

BANKERS—Messrs. Brown, Janson, and Co., and Bank of England.

SOLICITOR—Septimus Davidson, Esq.

CONSULTING ACTUARY—Charles Ansell, Esq., F.R.S.

Extract from the REPORT of the Directors for 1853, presented to the EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING of MEMBERS, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, 22nd December, 1853.

The Directors congratulate their fellow-members on the very gratifying result of the recently-completed Quinquennial Investigation of the assets and liabilities of the Institution, by which it appears that, on the 20th November, 1852, after providing for the present value of all the liabilities in the Life Assurance Department, a surplus remained of £242,627, which has been duly apportioned as heretofore.

The reductions range from 5 to 89 per cent. on the original Annual Premiums, according to the age of the party, and the time the Policy has been in force; and the Bonuses vary in like manner, from 50 to 75 per cent. on the amount of Premiums paid during the last five years.

The total amount of the reductions, per annum, for the ensuing five years is £23,348 17s. 2d.

The Bonuses assigned to those policies on which the original Premiums continue to be paid amount to £89,880 5s.; this, together with Bonuses apportioned at former divisions, makes an aggregate addition to the sums assured by the Policies in force of £126,564.

Notwithstanding the great reduction of Premiums, the net annual income arising from 12,326 existing Policies is £163,912 7s. 1d., this sum, with the interest on invested capital, viz. £37,298 7s. 3d., shows a total annual income of £201,210 14s. 4d.

In the twelve months ending the 20th November last, the Board has issued 1,336 Policies of Assurance, the Annual Premiums on which amount to £21,121 0s. 4d., being an increase of 209 in the number of Policies, and of £3,394 16s. 3d. in the amount of New Premiums thereon, over those of the preceding year.

The total sum paid, and in course of payment, to the representatives of deceased Members since the establishment of the Institution, is £371,317 17s. 7d.

The accounts for the year ending the 20th November last have been duly audited, the balance of receipts over disbursements in that period is £98,810 18s. 1d., increasing the capital stock of the Institution to the sum of £974,497 3s. 8d., which, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF £39,946, ADVANCED ON LOAN, AT INTEREST, TO MEMBERS ON SECURITY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE POLICIES, IS INVESTED IN REAL AND GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

The following Statement shows the progress of the Institution:—

NUMBER OF POLICIES ISSUED—

From 15 Dec. 1835, to 20 Nov. 1842 (7 years) .. .. . 3,215

From 20 Nov. 1842, to 20 Nov. 1847 (5 years) .. .. . 4,575

From 20 Nov. 1847, to 20 Nov. 1852 (5 years) .. .. . 7,066

From 20 Nov. 1852, to 20 Nov. 1853 (1 year) .. .. . 1,336

Total number issued .. .. . 16,192

AMOUNT OF INCOME

20 Nov. 1842 .. .. . £39,360 9 7

20 Nov. 1847 .. .. . 111,113 13 0

20 Nov. 1852 .. .. . 206,700 11 5

20 Nov. 1853 (after allowing the reduction on premiums) .. .. . 201,210 14 4

AMOUNT OF CAPITAL—

20 Nov. 1842 .. .. . £139,806 1 7

20 Nov. 1847 .. .. . 417,172 16 0

20 Nov. 1852 .. .. . 875,686 5 7

20 Nov. 1853 .. .. . 974,497 3 8

Members whose premiums fall due on the 1st January, are reminded that they must be paid within thirty days from that date.

Dec. 23, 1853. JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.

At a Ballot taken at the Meeting the two retiring Directors, THOMAS CASTLE, Esq., and WM. MILLER CHRISTY, Esq., were declared to be re-elected.

## WEIGHHOUSE CHURCH MUSIC.—

Many inquiries having been made regarding the new Chant-book, the publishers beg to state that it has been delayed solely by the desire of the compilers to give it the most careful revision. It will be out early next month.

## FIVE GUINEAS.—Mr. W. M. H. HALSE,

the Medical Galvanist, of 22, BRUNSWICK-SQUARE, LONDON, informs his friends that his FIVE GUINEA APPARATUS are now ready.

Send two postage-stamps for his Pamphlet on Medical Galvanism.

## SIR WILLIAM BURNETT'S DISINFECTING FLUID.

THE great and invariable success of Sir William Burnett's Patent Solution, in Preserving Timber, &c., from Rot, and in arresting the Decomposition of Animal and Vegetable Matters, soon led to its general application as an Antiseptic or Disinfecting Agent; and, for the last eight years, it has been in general use, with a success and public benefit truly marvellous, for the Disinfection of Sick Rooms, Clothing, Linen, &c.; the Prevention of Contagion; the Purification of Bilge-water and Ships' Holds, Cesspools, Drains, Water-closets, Stables, Dog-kennels, &c.

It is now only necessary to caution the public against an imitation which, for the last month or two, has been advertised as an "IMPROVED CHLORIDE OF ZINC," and even recommended by selections from Sir William Burnett's own Testimonials.

Sir William Burnett's Disinfecting Fluid is sold by all Chemists and Druggists, and at No. 18, Cannon-street, London-bridge.

FREE-TRADE FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY,

Offices, 86, St. James'-street, Pall-Mall, and 42, Poultry.

Shares £40 each, Monthly Subscription, 6s., Entrance Fee 1s. 6d., Quarterage 1s. per Share.

## THE FIRST PUBLIC DRAWING

Amongst the uncompleted Shareholders in this Society for priority of choice on the Society's Estates, will take place on MONDAY, the 30th day of January instant, at the Whittington Club, Arundel-street, Strand, when fifty rights of choice will be drawn in the ballot. The chair will be taken at half-past seven o'clock. All shares taken prior to the final numbers being placed in the wheel, the subscriptions whereon are not in arrear, will participate in the advantages of the drawing. The estates at present purchased for the Society are situate at Anerley and at Camberwell. Shares may be grouped to the number of three, on payment of a fee of 2s. per share, the conditions of which may be ascertained at the office, where also plans may be had after the 20th inst. Post-office orders for 8s. 6d., being the first monthly subscription per share, in the name of the Secretary, payable at the Charing-Cross Office, will insure immediate enrolment on the register of the Society.

THOMAS SHERWOOD SMITH, Secretary.

January 9th, 1854.

## NATIONAL FREEHOLD-LAND SOCIETY.

WEEKLY REPORT, January 19, 1854.

	Last Totals.	During the Week.	Present Totals.
Cash received.	£720,304 13 4	£12,674 4 11	£732,978 18 2
Shares issued.	72,856	587	73,443

VALID SHARES DRAWN DURING THE WEEK.

23,901, 32,064, 65,907 and 65,908\*, 10,553, 18,112, 25,431,

60,067, 938, 5,743, 70,430, 22,654, 65,790 30,352\* and

20,353\*, 55,330, 59,913, 51,722, 47,065, 57,888, 60,656,

50,075\* to 50,077\* 56,990 45,678\* to 45,677\*, 36,903, 54,047,

38,305, 64,877, 31,879, 44,559, 72,178, 58,113, 61,098, 51,117,

39,301, 12,282, 13,826, 64,748, 35,841, 21,685, 18,119, 24,041

23,630, 30,464, 57,752, 62,132\* and 62,134\*, 36,106, 42,362,

58,819, 37,372, 21,848, 68,295, 46,586, 4,544, 48,416, 69,478,

and 28,424. \* Grouped.

The shares numbered 60,633, 42,841, 51,255, 40,978, 41,947,

67,307, 48,155, 37,220, 53,516, 61,024, 32,817, 63,376, 38,190,

60,823, 61,900, 54,358, 49,106, 37,723, 34,128, 36,331, and 64,943

were also drawn, but as the subscriptions thereon were in arrear, the holders thereof have lost the benefit of this drawing.

Copies of the Prospectus, Rules, and last Annual Report, may be obtained at the office, or by post, gratis.

14, Moorgate-street. W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

## ARNOLD'S CLOCK MANUFACTORY

—OFFICE, HALL, SHOP, and PUBLIC DEALS, THREE GUINEAS; to Strike, Half-a-Guinea extra. Only best Work. Constantly renewed stock of elegant Drawing-room Clocks, under glass shades, from 37s. 6d.

Orders received for the erection of Public, Church, or Turret Clocks, of any size or complication, in any part of the Kingdom.

PUBLIC NOTICE is invited to the character of the stock at the well-known Manufactory. The wholesale trade is now declined, to allow of undivided attention to the retail trade of the Establishment, who will henceforth be supplied at the trade prices, careful regard being observed in all transactions to the high and long-maintained reputation of the house.

Best Work Only—Trade Prices—Delivered Free.

ARNOLD, WATCHMAKER,

59 and 60, RED LION STREET, HOLBORN, LONDON.

## DR. KING'S SARSAPARILLA COCOA.

—To those under a course of Sarsaparilla, this Cocoa will be found an excellent beverage, instead of tea or coffee (which decidedly excites the nervous system, and prevent medicine, particularly Sarsaparilla, from having its desired effect). Invalids with weak stomachs, will receive more benefit from this pure Cocoa than any preparation, being made with true Cocoa nibs, combined with pure Sarsaparilla, and rendered more palatable.

In Packets, at 1s. 6d. per lb., or 3lbs. for 4s.

To prevent fraud, HENRY HILDES has caused his name to be put upon each packet, and without which, none is genuine, and to imitate which is felony.

Sold by all respectable Medicine Vendors in the United Kingdom; and by the proprietor, at his LABORATORY, 10, HUNGERFORD-STREET, STRAND, LONDON.



# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 430.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOL MOVEMENT.

THE National Public School Association has wisely sought to strengthen itself for the ensuing Parliamentary campaign, by holding a Conference of its friends at Manchester, followed by an effective public meeting. We gather from the reports in the daily journals that the leaders of this movement believe it to have made rapid progress in public opinion during the last twelve months, and deem themselves warranted by the facts of the case in anticipating a not far distant triumph. They do right, undoubtedly, in keeping up their own spirits and encouraging the expectations of their friends by dwelling more intently upon the favourable than upon the unfavourable circumstances affecting the cause they have at heart—but we are at a loss to discover the special grounds on which they found their hope that the social condition of the people of England has so far altered, or is in process of alteration, as to render the general application of their system a more feasible thing than it was some years ago. We fear that of the several sections of the community now competing with one another for Parliamentary authority in aid of education, the Public School Association is by far the least likely to bear off the palm.

Let us, before proceeding to defend certain positions which were attacked on this occasion; congratulate both the friends of the Association and the country generally, on the tone which pervaded the deliberations of the Conference, and the speeches delivered at the public meeting. With an exception or two, not worth particularising, nothing could be fairer, more dispassionate, or more honourable. It were well, indeed, if public discussion upon points on which great difference of opinion obtains, were always conducted with the like admirable temper. Of the ability displayed by several of the speakers, it were superfluous to make mention—the names of the more prominent men sufficiently guarantee it. Certainly, it is anything but agreeable to find ourselves in decided opposition to such a body of gentlemen—and if we are not yet converts to their views, nor within likelihood of it, it is not because a change would introduce us to associates with whom we should not be proud to co-operate.

Our objections to the object of the Public School Association spring from a twofold source—*a priori* and *a posteriori*—theory and experience. We do not believe that, to make public provision for the education of the people, is defensible on general economical grounds—nor that, if made, it would remedy the evil which all parties equally deplore.

We will clothe the principle on which our first class of objections rest, in the language of Mr. Bright, who, to do him justice, never consciously mis-describes an opponent's argument, and seldom fails to present it in the tersest and most nervous terms. "Another objection," says he, "which Mr. Baines used, and in which Mr. Miall coincided with Mr. Baines, was that State interference was a thing which enfeebled a people—that a free nation be-

came less free by doing anything which the people could do, even though clumsily, for themselves—and that any interference by rates and taxes, and law and authorities of any kind, could only have the effect of destroying zeal and voluntary effort, not in questions of education only, but generally as respected all questions affecting the public." Mr. Bright has correctly apprehended the general drift of the principle on which we rely. We take precisely the same ground *quoad* education which the Free-traders took *quoad* commerce. We contend that it is bad policy to supersede that law which is implanted in our nature by God himself, and is designed to govern *individuals*, by public law. The education of children is the proper business of parents. To take the work out of their hands—or, more properly, to relieve them of the charge of it, whether by charity or by law, is sure of entailing serious moral penalties. When we speak of Voluntaryism in connection with education, we mean by it, education obtained for children at the expense of their parents, wherever that is possible, and, where it is not, by the supplementary aid of philanthropic and Christian benevolence. Men are as much bound to educate their offspring as to feed and clothe them. They are endowed with the same affections to serve as motives in the one case as in the other. If a long train of foregoing circumstances has unhappily made them too insensible to the worth of education to make any sacrifice to obtain it for their children, the wise course is, we think, to use every legitimate stimulus to awaken in them a sense of their responsibility—the unwise, to relieve them of that responsibility by a public provision. Consign a limb to perpetual inaction, and it will become torpid. Condemn an organ to disuse, and it will forget its natural functions. If our trade had continued to be regulated by public law, it would soon have sunk into decrepitude. If education is to be provided at the public cost, our fear is that, like religion, it will not become more vigorous and popular, but less so. It is in this sense that we believe that "State interference is a thing which enfeebles a people," and that it merely supersedes what it is the highest interest of nations to stimulate into development—individual responsibility, self-discipline, and virtue.

Mr. Bright having truly and forcibly described our objection, proceeded to refute it. But we put it to his clear, strong sense, whether he answered more than an accidental form of it. He admitted the danger which would accrue from national education by a despotic monarch, because the opinions of the people might be thereby moulded to suit the tyrant's will; but he pointed to America as a proof that, under municipal and popular authority, no such peril need be dreaded. We reply, that we have not affirmed that it would. It is not, in this respect, that we fear to adopt the system of the Public School Association, nor that we imagine the people would become "enfeebled." State education we have denounced as certain to creep on to that issue; but we have not charged municipal education with the same tendency. Our ground is the broad one: that the social duty which Providence has devolved upon individuals cannot be performed for them by the public, without weakening the *stamina* of society, and ultimately inducing greater evils than it cures. This, which we look upon as a law, holding good in all other respects, holds good, we think, in regard to education; but if education is really an exception, we ask to be informed what peculiarities make it so.

So much for theory. Our objections to a public provision for education are, if anything, stronger on the ground of experience. What are the facts of the case? Mr. Cobden directs our attention to the 5,000,000 people, chiefly of the labouring class, who habitually absent themselves from Divine worship, and asks how they are to be reclaimed but by means of the school? On our part, we ask Mr. Cobden how it comes to pass that these 5,000,000 people have fallen into the habit of utter neglect in regard to religious institutions? Surely he would not propose, as a means of winning them back to spiritual cultivation, the building

of more churches, or the extension of existing ecclesiastical machinery? No. The same Census Report, which brought to light the lamentable fact alluded to by Mr. Cobden, brought also to light, in close juxtaposition with it, the further fact, that the existing means of religious instruction are about double in extent to the use made of them. No doubt this arises from disinclination on the part of the working classes to the kind of teaching provided for them. The causes of that disinclination we need not now discuss—our argument is quite independent of the view which may be taken of them. But it is a fact that, with provision, compulsory and voluntary, nearly adequate to the need of the entire population, indifference prevents its being used to the extent of one-half of its availability. Mr. Cobden urges us to set up public schools as the best remedy for this evil. But how are we to be sure that the new provision will succeed better than the old? In a matter of such vast importance, involving so fundamental a change, and such indefinite expense, we cannot take his bare assurance that free schools will be full schools.

At present, it is notorious, the provision made for the education of the poor, is very much greater than the use made of it. Whence springs this awkward fact? From the *inability* of parents to avail themselves of school provision for their children? In a few cases it may be so—but, so long as the public-house flourishes in the very same district in which the school languishes, the general disability of the class under notice cannot be assumed. From *dislike of the sects*, and suspicion of their motives? But if this be so, how does it happen that Sunday schools are not as thinly attended as day schools? The children of the working classes are not withheld from Sunday schools—precisely the very institutions in which sectarianism might be most reasonably feared. No. The real cause of neglect, we do not doubt, is such an amount of indifference, arising partly from selfish indulgence, and partly from non-appreciation of the advantages of education, as prevents the poorer order from submitting to the sacrifices which the proper schooling of their children invariably involves. And mark! the school fee is the least of those sacrifices. In the agricultural districts especially, as soon as children can be turned to profitable account in the family of a poor labourer, their future prospects are forgotten, and the shilling a week "in the hand," is too commonly preferred to well-trained lads and lasses "in the bush." Now we do not believe that the public school system will destroy this indifference. In this respect we should anticipate it a decided failure. The poor would not be likely to value educational benefits for their offspring any the more highly because they can be had for nothing.

What, then, is to be done? Are we to sit down in despair, because we cannot do just what we would? No, by no means. But, at least, let us go to work reflectively, and wisely. Let us not blindly multiply machinery which, after all, may prove of no use. Our first business should be to dispel, if possible, that general indifference which is the main cause of the neglect complained of. To do this effectually, we must reform our plans of education. Those resorted to at present do the poor comparatively little service, and *they know it*. To teach reading and writing, with a smattering of arithmetic, and to beat into the memory a few rules of grammar, a few dates in history, and a few facts of geography, is but a poor preparation of a working-man's child for the "battle of life." Between the age of fifteen and twenty, immersed in daily toil, he will probably forget the greater portion of what he once learned; for it is his ordinary lot to move in a sphere in which it is all but impracticable to turn it to account, either for amusement or advantage. This is one reason, probably, and a main one, why education is so little prized by working people. Lord Ashburton has hit the right nail on the head. We must attract the indifferent by imparting a knowledge of "common things;" by awakening and exercising in the young the faculty of observation; by



putting fewer things into the head, and getting more out of it. Until this reform is effected, we doubt, we more than doubt, the success of free scholastic institutions, however detached they may be from sectarian influences.

If the ordinary laws which regulate supply and demand have hitherto seemed to be inapplicable to the education of the poor, depend upon it we must seek the reason, not in the defect of those laws, but in our having offered a practically unsuitable article. And we have no faith that public more than private provision would readily adapt itself to the real wants of the people. In every other department it is found that a public organization of means, whatever else its value, is ever more obstructive of change and improvement. Look at our national universities, our colleges, our endowed grammar schools,—does it not require almost the force of a revolution to move them on, so as to put them abreast of the age? Experience does not recommend the substitution, in matters of individual duty, public for private responsibility and supervision, at least in this country. On this ground, therefore, as well as on the ground of theory, we repudiate a national provision for the education of the poor. We believe it would be unsound in principle, and, whilst very expensive, unsuccessful in results. Until our views change in both these respects, we cannot desire the adoption by the Legislature of the advice tendered to it by the National Public School Association.

#### CENSUS RETURNS ON RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

##### OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The *Examiner*, which, like Mr. Cobden, draws an argument from the Returns on Religious Worship in favour of National Education, says:—"We learn from this curious volume, in the first place, the somewhat startling fact, that, if we count in the ranks of Dissent not only Protestant but Roman Catholic worshippers, there will remain for the Church of England something less than half the whole church-going population. This singular disclosure carries strange reflections with it, and will not be without its effect when next the question of bishops' salaries shall be discussed in the House of Commons. It can no longer be doubted, that we pay at a most extravagant rate for a commodity which, after all, we do not get. The sheep are not retained within the fold. . . . Excluding the Roman Catholics, the Dissenters are actually within three per cent. of sharing equally with the Establishment in their contribution to the population which goes to church."

The *Edinburgh News*, remarking on the revelations of Census Sunday, says:—"According to Mr. Mann's hypothesis, there were 5,288,296 persons who willingly neglected public worship on that particular day; but making all allowances for reasonable or necessary causes of absence, the number might with more truth be estimated at some 4,500,000. Even these figures are startling if not alarming, and clearly show that the British churches do not stand in a pleasant or inviting position to a large proportion of the British people. This fact deserves the serious attention of teachers and taught among our church-going population, and for its existence we wish we could with honesty and conscience hold them altogether irresponsible. But we cannot. The elements of *caste* are nowhere so rigorous as in many of our churches, while the unearnest and *quid pro quo* character of nearly all modern preaching repels rather than attracts minds earnestly in search of truth. If this state of things is to be remedied, the basis of church organizations must be widened and their sympathies deepened. The churches must become brotherhoods within themselves and for humanity without, while the church's teachers must put off the "days-men" and become watchful evangelists in all, but especially in the highest interests of the people."

The *Newcastle Guardian* notices that there are in that town, according to the attendance on Census Sunday, 28,806 sittings, and only 18,710 worshippers, being no fewer than 10,095 sittings unoccupied. "Nor is Newcastle peculiar in this respect, as we shall presently show. In all parts—even those where religious instruction is allowed to be most inadequate—a like disparity is evident between the seats provided and the seats accepted. It pertains to all denominations, but to some more than to others, as will be seen by the annexed table, in which Mr. Mann gives us the proportion per cent. which the occupied sittings bear to the total number of sittings in England and Wales:—

Church of England .....	33.2	United Baptists .....	24.3
Church of Scotland .....	28.4	Methodists (Old) .....	35.6
United Pres. Church .....	33.6	Do. (New) .....	34.0
Pres. Church in England .....	29.8	Do. (Primitive) .....	41.2
Independents .....	37.9	Do. (Reformers) .....	45.0
General Baptists .....	35.9	Roman Catholics .....	68.7
Particular Do. ....	42.4		

This places the Established Church in the awkward position of having a smaller number of attendants, in proportion to its sittings, than any one of the numerous Dissenting bodies, save three, and these the least in the country? Of course, when we compare the whole of the Dissenters with the Church, the latter appear in a still more unfavourable light as regards this feature of the census. We see that, so far from more churches being wanted, we do not fill above a third of those already in existence! The same observation applies more or less to all our religious bodies—none of them, according to the returns before us, having half the adherents they can accommodate! A grave question this for our ecclesiastical teachers—one which it behoves them to consider more carefully and urgently than that of mere erections. If we must indicate where the blame lies, let us repeat, it is not so much, if at all, among an indifferent,

apathetic people, as in stereotyped, uninviting, and perfunctory services—services which repel so many of our educated classes, while they fail to impress the humble or the illiterate. The neglect, we fear, is in the pulpit—the destitution in the priesthood."

The *Sheffield Independent*, after quoting the facts relative to the progress of voluntarism in the church, says:—"The true argument from the facts stated is, that the policy which has done so much and answered so well, should be further pursued. It is evident that our friends of the Church both can and will do, if left to themselves. It would be absurd then to deaden their zeal and consult their liberality by offering to them money collected by the tax-gatherers from the pockets of the unwilling."

"No POPERY" DEMONSTRATION.—On Monday, in last week, there was a "No Popery" demonstration in Liverpool. The place of meeting was decorated with flags, evergreens, and a portrait of Lord Roden. The stewards wore scarfs, and the ladies rosettes of the orthodox orange hue. Mr. T. H. Liddell, one of the Members of the borough, was received with the Kentish fire. At the annual meeting, in Liverpool, of the Working Men's Sunday Services Society, Mr. Nathaniel Cane, adverting to the strong anti-Popery disposition of the Established Church clergy, in Liverpool, said:

"We have just heard, at a meeting lately held, a party of clergymen, as usual, ring the changes of the old 'no Popery' cry. On looking over the report of their proceedings, all we can see is a long, weary tirade against the Church of Rome. So, to advance the cause of Christianity, we have Protestant ministers—messengers of peace and goodwill—appealing to the prejudices and inflaming the passions of ignorant and violent men. Protestants' appeal to the people! A platform of persons pitching into popery! (Laughter, and applause.) And is this all our boasted Protestantism can do?—(hear)—excite envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness?—promote rancour among neighbours?—provoke party feuds and street fights? (Hear, hear.)

"Are broken heads,  
With bloody noses and black eyes,  
To be the church's sacrifice?"

(Applause.) Are the professed ministers of peace to hound on the orange shipwreck to belabour the poor Papist lumper? Are the workshops of Liverpool to be the perpetual arenas of faction and strife, while two contending systems of priestcraft squabble for ascendancy? (Hear, hear.) Let us hope that the good, strong, sound common sense of British workmen will save them from all such efforts, and let them treat all such attempts by designing priests of any denomination with the contempt they deserve. (Applause.) Christianity will never reach the masses by any such instrumentalities as these."

THE JERUSALEM BISHOPRIC.—The Bishop of Oxford and Lord Aberdeen have had a correspondence respecting the establishment of the Jerusalem Bishopric. Mr. Williams, the Warden of the College of St. Columba, had been led to undertake the office of Chaplain to the late Bishop Alexander, by a letter from the Bishop of Oxford, stating that no interference with the Eastern Church was contemplated or would be countenanced by the authorities at home. The Bishop of Oxford asks Lord Aberdeen if he can confirm that view? The reply is in the affirmative. The late Archbishop Alexander was opposed to all attempts at proselytising from the Greek communion, and did not contemplate giving any sanction to secessions from it. "He always spoke with great regard of the Eastern Church, and looked forward with hope to the possibility of some nearer connexion hereafter, between that communion and the Church of England."

CHURCH-RATES AT STOCKTON.—A fresh agitation has sprung up in this parish relative to Church-rates. The opponents of the rates are not confined to Dissenters, many attached members of the Established Church being amongst the number. One of the loudest complaints is, that the whole of the money collected as church-rates has not been strictly applied for the purposes it was intended, and that for a long period, a greater amount has been demanded than has been necessary for strictly legal purposes warranted by law. There can be no doubt that very speedily these rates will be altogether abolished in Stockton.—*Newcastle Guardian*.

A hint is expressed in some of the provincial papers, that Archdeacon Denison is about to secede from the Anglican communion.

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE.—The following is a copy of a hand-bill which has been sent to us:—"£500 Reward. Parish of Theberton.—Whereas, at divers seasons, the houses and premises of certain individuals residing in the above Parish of Theberton, have been entered by Churchwardens, Constables, and others, and legally robbed of various goods and chattels for the support of the sect commonly called the Church of England. This is to give Notice, that the above Reward in full will be paid to any person or persons who will search out and bring to light such passage or passages of Scripture which record the making of a CHURCH-RATE, and seizing the goods of conscientious objectors, either by our Saviour or his disciples. And be it further known, that in default of such precedent being proved from Scripture, the said Church can no longer be considered a Church of Christ, and by the proceedings of her functionaries above referred to, she incurs the risk of public contempt."

The biography of the author of the "Night Thoughts" is a most humiliating record. At the very time that he was writing in strains the most solemn on the vanity of earthly pursuits, his new biographer, Dr. Doran, describes him as "a poet ever seeking a patron, a pensioner looking out for increase of income, and a clergyman sharply inquiring for preferment." He wrote an abject letter to Mrs. Howard, the king's mistress, begging her influence in his behalf for some crown living.

#### Religious and Educational Intelligence.

JUBILEE OF THE REV. J. PRINGLE, OF NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—The *Newcastle Guardian* of Saturday reports, at some length, the jubilee of the Rev. James Pringle, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church in that town. On Tuesday, in last week, there was a public dinner and soiree to celebrate the event. The former was presided over by the Rev. James Douglas, of Hartlepool. Nearly sixty ministers and lay-gentlemen sat down, among whom were noticed the Rev. A. Jack, of North Shields, the Rev. Thos. Pottenger, Henry Angus, Esq., and others connected with different Christian denominations. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, said of Mr. Pringle:—"As a minister of the gospel he had laboured with great assiduity, diligence, and success, in the vineyard of the Lord; he had had trials to bear, difficulties to encounter, and enemies to contend with; but what faithful minister had not these? He had struggled with these and overcome them, and by doing so had become an object on which God smiles and the angels look down with delight. Nearly fifty years had passed away since Mr. Pringle commenced his labours, and of those to whom he then ministered, with the exception of two individuals, all had gone to their account. Long might their venerable father live to serve in the ministry. Their venerable father was also a Protestant Dissenter, and, as such, he had done much in this metropolis of commerce, mining industry, and manufactures, to form and promote a public opinion in favour of the scriptural principle that each church should support its own pastor, and each pastor live by his own flock—a principle as just and honourable as it is scriptural." Mr. Pringle feelingly and appropriately responded to the toast. In the course of his speech, he said:—"Of the congregation to which he ministered when he first came to Newcastle, only two remained—one of whom was the daughter of the Rev. William Graham. In all denominations, including the Established and Roman Catholic Churches, there had been a complete and frequently-repeated change of their ministers and officials—not one remaining in any department of the professing Christian Church in this town who was his contemporary fifty years ago." In the evening, about 400 friends took tea together in the school-room of Bewick-street Baptist Chapel, the Rev. S. Wallace, the junior pastor of the congregation, presiding. The Chairman said,—"It was seldom that the man of more than 'three score years and ten' appeared to such advantage as Mr. Pringle. He still preached regularly once every Sabbath, and, when duty or benevolence called, oftener. Seldom was such age blessed with so firm a step, so elastic a frame, so vigorous a mind, and so powerful and commanding a voice" (applause). Adverting to trials which Mr. Pringle had had in his church, he said he had experienced what was enough to crush the strongest spirit. Supported by grace, however, he had overcome those trials, and now they had assembled to do him that honour which was due to his Christian virtues and his years. After a short address from the Rev. Mr. Douglas, of Hartlepool, James Annandale, Esq., read to Mr. Pringle a congratulatory address, which the congregation had agreed to present to him on his entrance upon his fiftieth year of ministry amongst them. The address recounted the principal events which had marked the history of Mr. Pringle's pastorate, and expressed fervent wishes that he might still long be spared to continue his Christian labours. Mr. Annandale at the same time presented to Mr. Pringle, on the same behalf, a splendid silver salver, and a purse containing one hundred and fifty sovereigns. Mr. Pringle, who seemed deeply affected, returned thanks for the testimonial. The Rev. Messrs. Ker, Pottenger, Bell, Reid, and Renton, afterwards addressed the meeting in appropriate terms. The highest regard was expressed for the character of Mr. Pringle as a Christian minister, both by those from a distance and those of the town.

Mr. Robert Harley, of Airedale College, Bradford, has received and accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Congregational church, Brighouse. The same gentleman was recently elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society.

LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES AT BRADFORD.—The Rev. J. P. Chown, on Wednesday evening, delivered the last of his course of lectures to the working classes during the present season—the subject being, very appropriately: "The Working Classes—what they have been, what they are, and what they may be." In tracing the rise of the industrious orders from a state of serfdom, he presented a gratifying picture of their physical, moral, and intellectual elevation, and drew from their present position and prospects, glowing hopes of the happy destiny which is before them, if they are true to themselves and their own interests. The lecture, like its predecessors, was well-attended, and it is probable that a small surplus will remain, after defraying the expenses, for the benefit of the Infirmary.

THE REV. T. C. HINE.—A very interesting and numerous attended meeting of the congregation of Union Chapel, in this town, (says the *Plymouth Journal*) was held in the school-room on Wednesday evening last, for the purpose of presenting the Rev. T. C. Hine with a testimonial of respect and affection, on the occasion of his removal from Plymouth. It will be remembered that mainly (if not exclusively) to the exertions of Mr. Hine, the public are indebted for the erection of Courtenay-street Chapel, which is not only an ornament to the town, but an important addition to the places of assembly for Protestant evangelical worship. In a neighbourhood, not perhaps the most remarkable for its wealth and enterprise, Mr. Hine's almost single-handed effort was such as few would



have undertaken, and it having been commenced and carried out for no personal or sectarian ends, but in a spirit of pure Catholicity and Christian benevolence, it is the more to be admired and commended. The Rev. Dr. Allott presided, and amongst the clergymen who surrounded him, were the Revs. S. Newth, M.A., G. Hunter (London), E. Jones, S. Nicholson, J. Barfitt, and J. Pyer. After a cordial and appropriate address from the chairman, Mr. Conway, on behalf of the congregation, presented the Rev. T. C. Hine with an elegant tea and coffee service, and for the teachers of the Sunday-schools, with a handsome silver inkstand, accompanying the presentation with an appropriate address. The Rev. S. Newth and Mr. T. Stevens followed, and further gave expression to the deep regret of the church and congregation at being separated from their beloved pastor, to which Mr. Hine touchingly responded. Other gentlemen afterwards addressed the meeting; and, in the name of his brethren in the ministry, the Rev. J. Pyer presented Mr. Hine with Dr. Payne's works, and Dr. Coneybeare's "Life and Writings of the Apostle Paul." Having briefly spoken and expressed his thanks, the Rev. T. C. Hine offered the concluding prayer, and pronounced the benediction.

**WAKEFIELD.**—The Rev. Joseph Stuchbery, B.A., formerly of New College, London, and more recently officiating at Rusholme-road Chapel, Manchester, was set apart as pastor of the church and congregation assembling in Zion (Independent) Chapel, Wakefield, on Wednesday last. Many ministers from various parts of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and also from Lancashire and London, were present. The Rev. T. Seales, of Silcoates, read portions of Scripture, and engaged in prayer. An introductory discourse was delivered by the Rev. H. R. Reynolds, B.A., of Leeds. It was an eloquent exposition of Independency. J. A. Skidmore, Esq., one of the deacons, read a detailed account of the circumstances under which Mr. Stuchbery settled amongst them. The Rev. W. Scott then put several questions to the young minister, which were becomingly answered by him. The Rev. John Adey, of London, offered up the designation prayer, and the Rev. Dr. Harris delivered the pastoral address. The ministers and friends, to the number of about 400, adjourned to the school-room below the chapel, where dinner was provided. In the evening the chapel was again well-filled; the Rev. J. S. Eastmead, minister of Salem Chapel, Wakefield, read the Scriptures and engaged in prayer, after which, the Rev. James Griffin, of Rusholme-road Chapel, Manchester, preached to the church and congregation.

**BICESTER.**—The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Bicester Congregational Town and Village Missionary Society, was held on the 12th inst., at the Congregational Chapel, Chapel street, Bicester, when about 150 persons sat down to tea, sixty-three of whom were poor members of the church and congregations in the town and surrounding villages, and paid for by the Rev. W. Ferguson, pastor of the church. Mr. Ferguson read a short report, and the meeting, which was well attended, was addressed by the Rev. R. Ann, of Marsh Gibbon, Bucks; the Rev. H. Baker, of Summer-town, near Oxford; Joseph Bentley, Esq.; the Rev. J. W. Massie, D.D., LL.D., of London; and Mr. Elstone, lay preacher, who is also one of the deacons of the church. The Dissenting church in Bicester has its clothing-club, two Dorcas societies, preaching stations, seven lay preachers, six circulating libraries, three Sabbath-schools, eight evening-schools and adult classes, one village day-school, tract and bible societies. These Sabbath, daily, and evening schools and classes are attended by about 380 children and adults, scores of whom are too poor to attend a day-school of any kind. The library books are in demand in the villages, and the monthly parcel of various kinds of periodicals, between three and four thousand of which were sold during the year 1853, in Bicester and its vicinity, has been the means of creating a desire for self-improvement. Thirty meetings, including the labours of the Sabbath, are held every week by the pastor and his helpers to the truth, to promote the regeneration and physical and social elevation of their fellow-beings. The sum of £112 was raised during the past year by the church and its branches for the support of the ministry, and to promote education, home missions, and the comfort of the poor for whom Christ died. This is not a large sum, but when it is stated that the people who raised it are all poor—the bulk of them, of the eight or nine shillings a week class—and that the sum raised by them is more than has been raised by twenty parish churches in the neighbourhood on the Voluntary principle, and that, too, in the State Church's strongest hold, it must be admitted that they have done well. The sheets and blankets lent to the poor, both in Bicester and its neighbourhood, during the winter half-year, are of great service to the famishing peasantry this trying season.

The Rev. W. Jackson, late of Oakhampton, Devon, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Church and congregation, over which the late venerable Robert Weaver presided more than fifty years. He entered upon his labours on New Year's Day.

**PROPOSED NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL IN BATH.**—The members of the congregation who lately seceded from Argyle Chapel, Bath, have resolved to erect an elegant and commodious chapel in Charlotte-street, Queen-square. Towards the cost, which is estimated at £3,000, the friends on the spot have already raised some £1,800.

**THE ORATORY,** in King William-street, Charing-Cross, lately in the possession of the fraternity called the "Brethren of the Oratory," and previously known as the "Lowther Rooms," has fallen into the hands of Christian philanthropists, who have converted it into a place of rational, instructive, and edifying entertainment, under the patronage of Lord Shaftesbury, Lord Robert Grosvenor, the Hon. Arthur Kinnsaid, M.P., the Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., and other well-known

Christian philanthropists. The whole will be conducted under the sanction, and upon the basis of, the Working Men's Educational Union, who remove their manufacturing and trading premises to King William-street. The rooms will be privately opened by Lord Shaftesbury, on Friday evening, the 27th inst. The public will be admitted to a daily lecture at three p.m., on and after Monday the 30th of this month, suited to the upper classes of society. The evening lectures, to commence the same day, will be exclusively for the humbler and operative classes; at the small charge of twopenny per head.

**KNOWL, SOMERSETSHIRE.**—On Tuesday evening, the 17th inst., the members of the church and congregation connected with the Independent chapel at the above-named place, held a social tea-meeting, for the purpose of presenting their respected pastor, the Rev. J. Teesdale Davis, with a purse of money, "as a faint expression of their sympathy with him in his arduous work, their interest in his ministry, and their esteem and affection for him as their pastor." Members of the Established Church, and of the Wesleyan body, generously came forward to render their aid to the object.

**HURSTMONCEAUX AND BOREHAM, SUSSEX.**—The Rev. J. R. Smith, of Chester, has received and accepted an unanimous invitation to the above pastorate, and entered on his stated labours with increasing congregations, and encouraging prospects.

**UNION CHAPEL, ISLINGTON.**—At the close of the past year, the Rev. H. Allon, who has just completed the tenth year of his ministry, took occasion to preach in reference to the position of the church. The following list of societies connected with Union Chapel, and of the contributions paid to them during the past year, is a striking instance of religious activity, and an excellent specimen of the sphere and usefulness occupied by many of our Dissenters' places of worship—

	£	s.	d.
Benevolent Society	180	19	4
Boys' Day-school	81	5	6
Girls' Day-school	77	9	10
Sunday-school	27	15	0
Domestic Mission	68	14	6½
Branch Stations—			
Short-street, Bethnal-green	255	18	5
Brand-street, Holloway	2	0	0
Infant-school, Carter's-cottages	21	1	8
Thrawl-street, Ragged-school	30	0	0
Maternal Society	44	3	4
Tract Society	27	6	9
Bible Society Jubilee Fund	300	6	4
British Missions	202	17	4
Auxiliary Missionary Society	668	2	3
Auxiliary to Evangelical Continental Society	17	8	6
Auxiliary to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel among the Jews	28	19	7
Asylum for Fatherless Children	32	18	10
	£2,067	7	2½

**HINCKLEY.**—The Rev. John F. Glass, minister of the Independent Church, Leicester-road, Hinckley, having resigned his charge, the members of the church and friends held a tea-party and public meeting on the evening of the 17th inst., in the Town-hall, for the purpose of expressing their high sense of his character, talents, and usefulness, while resident in that locality. The Rev. George Miall, of Ullesthorpe, Secretary of the County Association, occupied the chair. After an address presented by the church to Mr. Glass, full of affectionate and warm sympathy, to which Mr. Glass feelingly replied, addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. Massie, Atherton; the Rev. B. Roehuck, of Brierly-hill; the Rev. D. Frain; the Rev. O. Hargreaves, Baptist minister, Hinckley; the Rev. J. Piggett, Wesleyan minister; the Rev. T. Mays, Wigston; the Rev. W. R. Lewis, Lutterworth; the Rev. T. Johnson, Hinckley; and the Rev. Dr. Gordon, of Walsall, all expressive of high and affectionate esteem.

### Correspondence.

#### WHY IS WELSH NONCONFORMITY UNREPRESENTED IN PARLIAMENT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—At the close of your article on "Voluntaryism in Wales," in your last number, having shown that the great majority of the Welsh people are Protestant Nonconformists, you reasonably ask, "How is it that they have sent only one representative, professing their own religious sentiments, to the House of Commons? How is it, above all, that they have sent so many who are active foes to the principle which has made Nonconformity triumphant throughout Wales?" Any one who has been in Wales during a general election could easily answer your question. Elections in the Principality are not free. Tory members go to the House of Commons, as Tory members are sent up by the small English boroughs, with this difference—that electors in Wales are intimidated and coerced, while in the small boroughs in England they are bribed and corrupted.

The Welsh boroughs are small, and are the property of some nobleman deeply interested in the Church, who takes very good care to thrust a man of his own views upon the people. If the boroughs were as large as Cardiff and its contributory boroughs, we should have a great many more Dissenting M.P.'s. The many noble struggles made by Welsh Dissenters prove this. The members for the Welsh boroughs are not elected by the people, but are sent into the House of Commons despite the people.

If Mr. Barkley wants facts to prove the need of the ballot, Wales can supply him with more than enough.

I could point out the noblemen or landed proprietors who, instead of the people, are represented by each member. As long as we are denied the ballot, Wales, notwithstanding its Dissent, must be represented by men who neither understand nor respect the principles of the people.

Yours respectfully,

A WELSHMAN.

January 21, 1854.

#### THE BOOK OF MORMON.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The following extract from *Rabelais* will show the origin of a part of the Mormon story; the coincidence is too remarkable to be accidental; and no one reading Joe Smith's version of the discovery of the plates, and the crystal whereby he deciphered the hieroglyphics, and then turning to the passage in *Rabelais*, but must, I think, be thoroughly convinced from what source the prophet derived his notions of the buried plates, and the spectacle-shaped Urim and Thummim!

"I say that by the sovereign gift of heaven the antiquity and genealogy of Gargantua hath been reserved for our use more full and perfect than any other. This genealogy was found by John Andrew in a meadow, which he had near the pole-arch, under the olive-tree as you go to Narsay: where, as he was making a cast-up of some ditches, the diggers with their mattocks struck against a great brazen tomb, and unmeasurably long, for they could never find the end thereof, by reason that it entered too far within the sluices of Vienne. Opening this tomb, in a certain place thereof, sealed on the top with the mark of a goblet, about which was written in Etrurian letters, *Hæc Rabelais*, they found nine fagons set in such order as they used to rank their skittles in Gascony, of which that which was placed in the middle had under it a big, fat, great, grey, pretty, small, mouldy little pamphlet, smelling stronger but not better than roses. In that book the said genealogy was found, written all at length, in a Chancery hand, not in paper, not in parchment, nor in wax, but in the bark of an elm tree; yet so worn with the long tract of time, that hardly could three letters be perfectly discerned. I, though unworthy, was sent for thither, and with much help of those spectacles whereby the art of dim writings and letters that do not appear clear to the sight, is practised, as Aristotle teacheth it, did translate the book."—*Rabelais' Works*. Bohn's edit., vol. i., p. 101.

That Joe Smith, or some of his co-prophets, made use of the above fiction, is to me perfectly clear without the aid of spectacles!

ANTIQUARIUS.

Clifton, Gloucestershire.

#### FIELD FOR ENGLISH CAPITAL IN IRELAND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—A letter from Mr. Sewell, of Youghal, appears in your paper of the 4th inst., the object of which is to interest some of your English readers in Ireland, as a field for the employment of their capital. I fully sympathize with Mr. Sewell, and concur in most of the observations he makes, in reference to this country. I am decidedly of opinion that enterprising and energetic manufacturers of cotton or woollen goods might employ their capital here, with great safety and advantage to themselves, and to the poor people around them. This view is strengthened by the fact, that about eight miles from this city there is a most excellent and flourishing cotton factory, in which some 1,500 or 1,600 hands are employed, and which has been very remunerative to its proprietors. Manufacturers would have the same facilities for importing the raw material, and exporting the manufactured goods, as they have in England, wages would be a trifle lower, and there is a larger supply of water power here than in the sister country. As an Englishman, I am not likely to be biased in favour of Ireland; but I feel satisfied that life is as safe here as in England, and that if properly treated and paid, "the poor Irish" are just as able and willing to work as my own countrymen. Dissenters would find here bodies of Christians, who would gladly welcome them, and Churchmen would find ministers in the Established Church of excellent character, good abilities, and evangelical sentiments. There would be far less self-denial required, I should think, in removing to Ireland, than in going, as *The Times* of Wednesday last suggests, to the Continent, to establish manufactures there.

In reference to this city, allow me to say, it possesses greater advantages for commerce and manufactures than Youghal. There is constant steam communication between Waterford and London, Liverpool and Bristol; and soon there will be, in all probability, some first-class mail packets plying between this harbour and Milford Haven. There is also a large juvenile population, looking for and anxious to work.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

T. WILSHIRE,

Waterford, January 20, 1854.

Baptist Minister.

#### CONGREGATIONALISM IN ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Your valuable *Supplement*, containing "Census Returns on Religious Worship," I read with deep interest, and am induced to ask admission in your columns of a few lines on an important subject.

It is comparatively easy to ascertain what number compose our congregations on one Sabbath in ten years, but cannot Congregationalists (Baptists and Independents) unite in the adoption of one general plan, by which the prosperity or otherwise of each church and congregation throughout England, at least in every year, may be made known, as far as statistics is concerned? Are not our movements aggressive? Cannot each pastor or deacon take returns quarterly; produce the four at the end of each year numerically added, and present such to a meeting of ministers and



delegates from both bodies; and would not such gatherings of brethren tend to produce fraternal affection, and unite in one common bond those who love and serve the Lord Jesus?

Let the assemblies annually meet first in London, subsequently in large provincial towns, which may be taken alphabetically or otherwise, as the first meeting may determine. In anticipation of each annual return, each church would be stimulated to renewed zeal, exert its influence, put forth its energies, and thus extend the cause of the Redeemer. Should these suggestions lead to the adoption of a better plan, and issue in practical results, my object will be attained.

I am, dear Sir, yours,  
JAMES ROOME SMITH,  
Independent Minister.

Hurstmonceux, Jan. 20, 1854.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

The Conference of the National Public School Association, held at Manchester on Wednesday last, was more influentially attended than any previous meeting. Mr. Alex. Henry, late M.P. for the county, presided, and in his opening speech, after referring to the progress of the national educational principle in public sentiment, said:—Since our last conference, as you are aware, considerable activity has been manifested beyond our pale, in relation to the question of education. The Manchester and Salford education scheme has been brought before Parliament and the country; Lord John Russell has presented an educational bill to the House of Commons; the National Public School Association has also prepared a draught bill; and a committee of the House of Commons has collected a voluminous body of evidence on the subject of education. The Manchester and Salford Bill, published within the last few days, and differing in essential particulars from the scheme of this Association, will again be presented to Parliament, during the ensuing session. Lord John Russell will again, it is supposed, bring in his bill, and it is intended to press forward the bill of the National Public School Association also.

Mr. Samuel Lucas congratulated the meeting on the position the question had gained; and he moved the first resolution, which declared the inadequacy of existing means of instruction, and that funds for schools should be raised by local rates, and controlled by a local committee.

Mr. Cobden made his speech in seconding this resolution. People say the Association ignores the vast number of school-houses already built: but they never do that. Why, Government has paid a million sterling out of the taxes for building schools during the last twenty years—the schools have not been built by the voluntary system; and the Association always contemplated making use of them. It is said that the voluntary system has educated the people: "I will call it the involuntary system," said Mr. Cobden.

"The Voluntary system has not educated the people; and there is one bold staring fact which Mr. Lucas has mentioned—the fact that in 1850, thirty-three per cent. of the men married in this country and forty-six per cent. of the women married in this country could not sign their names to the marriage-register, but were obliged to make their marks; there is that one fact in answer to the assertion that the Voluntary system has educated the people. And when you hear these astounding statistics, bear in mind what they mean. They do not mean that any proportion of the higher and middle classes cannot write their names. The under-graduates at Oxford and Cambridge do not make their marks when they get married; your professional men and merchants, and the great bulk of the middle class and shopkeepers, who have dealings with trade, and have bills to sign, don't make their marks because they are unable to write their names, and their sons are educated sufficiently to sign their names to the marriage-register; so that, when you say that thirty-three per cent. of the young men who get married cannot write their names, it means that a great deal more than half of the labouring population of this country are unable to write their names.

"We consider that the middle class of this country have, during the last twenty years, undoubtedly made very great progress in the education of their children. According to the quality of education that is current, there is probably nowhere in the world where greater progress has been made, more desire felt by a class, than has been displayed by the middle class of this country to educate their children. The upper class, of course, we should include in the same category. But, as to the working class of this country, none of the efforts that have been made in the way of education have reached them at all—I mean that your cheap publications and your mechanics' institutions have not reached the lower class of unskilled labourers at all. People talk a great deal about mechanics' institutions, but I will throw out a challenge—I will venture to say that you cannot find an agricultural labourer in this country, in England and Wales, who is a member of a mechanics' institution."

The labouring classes are, indeed, so utterly wanting in education that the mechanics' institutes are compelled to become schools of elementary instruction.

"Why I cannot recognise the statistics Mr. Baines puts before us—and I can never talk of him but with respect, because, when I say that some who really obstruct us pretend to go with us, I cannot say that of my friend Mr. Baines, for he has shown us by his voluntary effort, his devotion to the cause of education, and if we had a million Mr. Baineses in the country I believe we should have a tolerably well educated people—but why I cannot accept his statistics of school attendance is, that I have no faith in the instruction the schools give. They want inspection, they want rivalry, they want competition, they want looking after.

"I want secular instruction to be separated from religious instruction, because I want secular instruction to be improved. It is quite impossible for the schoolmaster to do justice to secular instruction if he is to give religious instruction as well. Secular instruction is quite enough for him, and you have no right to ask him to fulfil the duties of a religious teacher; and it is idleness on the part of the teachers of religion to seek for such an evasion of their own duties. . . . If you separate secular from religious education, you will do what you have done in every other pursuit of life—improve the quality by a division of labour. And where do I find my example to prove it? We have now a few secular schools; there have been a few schools established owing to the munificence of an individual—Mr. Ellis—the schools called the Birkbeck Schools, in London, and a school in Edinburgh also, the Williams's School. Well, now, I have seen these schools: they don't profess to give religious instruction; they don't profess to oppose religious instruction; but they say, we profess to only give secular instruction here, and you must get your religious education elsewhere. Well; but there cannot be a doubt that the quality of the instruction given in those schools is vastly superior to that ordinarily given in other schools for working people. And I have no hesitation in saying, that these schools of Mr. Ellis, named originally from Dr. Birkbeck, from his school having been established in Southampton-buildings, originally founded by that most excellent man, Dr. Birkbeck—I have no hesitation in saying that those schools, comparing them with the average of British schools and National schools, are incomparably superior. They don't confine themselves to teaching parrot-like, what the children don't understand, but they draw out reasons and invoke reasons for everything they teach a child."

He rejoiced in the progress of their question. They had had cross-fires from every side against them. On one side, the Church; on the other side, a portion of the Dissenters, ably led by Mr. Baines; and yet, in spite of these cross-fires, having no political organisation, as it were, which wholly and entirely identifies itself with them, what progress they had made, and what a highly influential body they had about them. If that be the innate strength of this principle, let them follow and persevere in it.

The following resolutions were also subsequently agreed to:—

"That, in the opinion of this Conference, no system of schools which confers sectarian advantages, or invades the rights of conscience, can prove permanently satisfactory to the country."

"That, in the opinion of this Conference, no system of public instruction can be complete without provision for industrial schools, where required by the exigencies of the population."

"That, in the opinion of this Conference, the National Public School Association should take steps for the introduction of a permissive bill into Parliament at the earliest possible period of the ensuing session; and that they should employ their utmost efforts in pressing it forward."

"That this Conference recognizes the necessity of embracing existing schools in any system of national instruction, and approves the provisions made by the bill of the National Public School Association to include such schools, by which the conscientious convictions of the managers and of the ratepayers are fully protected."

The public meeting in the evening at the Mechanics' Institution was crowded and enthusiastic. Mr. Absalom Watkin occupied the chair. Mr. Milner Gibson, M.P., laid much stress upon the three great elements of their scheme—local rates, local management, and liberty of conscience:—

"Why were their municipalities to be deprived of the power of managing the schools, when the constitution vested in them so many important powers of governing in their different localities? (Hear, hear.) Why was the Committee of the Council to direct all the important principles of management of these schools, so that the local municipal bodies would become mere agencies for carrying out the routine of business pointed out by the Committee of Council in London? It could never be agreed to, and it was entirely at variance with the policy which has been pursued in this country, upon which they were wont to pride themselves, when they talked of the confusion and disorders of other states. If there was one thing more important than another to be kept in the hands of the people, if they were to be rated for it, it was the management of their schools,—that they might not, supported by public taxes, be made the instrument of circulating any particular views which the Government might desire, and so be open to the reproach, which such schools were open to in foreign countries, where, although there was a public education, yet, being directed by, and in the hands of the Government, it was very often moulded to purposes adverse to the true interests of the people."

The marked feature of the meeting was the appearance of Mr. Bright, M.P., who has never before publicly identified himself with the Public School Association, and who addressed himself mainly to the arguments put forward by Voluntaries:—

"There were two men in this country—there were more than two—but two to whom he would refer as connected with what was called the voluntary principle, for whom he had a profound respect. Mr. Baines was one of them, and Mr. Miall, of the *Nonconformist*, and representative in Parliament of the borough in which he lived, the other. Of Mr. Baines he would say this much, that he believed there was no man, in that building or out of it, in this country, whatever his opinions upon that question, who was more anxious for the education of the people than Mr. Baines was, and he believed there was no man who had done more (hear) by his personal labour, by his contributions, and by his investigation of the question, to create an interest in favour of education among the people of this country. Mr. Miall was one of our most eminent public writers—a man of the highest character, of the most undoubted consistency—and he was as anxious at this moment that all the people of this country should be well educated as any man in that room. Mr. Baines did not believe it to be proper in any case to carry on education, intellectual and moral training and education, without

connecting with it religious instruction. Now, he (Mr. Bright) must say, that he was not willing that it should be taken for granted that religion should thus be inseparably connected with instruction in the ordinary branches of education. He could not see any connexion necessarily between religion and arithmetic, for example, or between the doctrines of Christianity and any of those other matters which formed the ordinary branches of education. He thought it was capable of proof that it would be advantageous for both those branches of education that they should not be taught together, but that they should be really taught apart. (Loud cheers.) Another objection which Mr. Baines used, and in which Mr. Miall coincided with Mr. Baines, was, that State interference was a thing which enfeebled a people; that a free nation became less free by Government doing anything which the people could do, even though clumsily, for themselves; and that any interference, by rates and taxes, and law and authority of any kind, could only have the effect of destroying zeal and voluntary effort, not in questions of education only, but generally as respected all questions affecting the public. Now, this was true to a certain extent, and to a certain extent it was not at all true. (Hear, hear.) In the United States, all that this Association had ever proposed to do had been done for a long time past; and no man living could say that the fears which Mr. Baines and Mr. Miall had expressed found any kind of confirmation whatever from any result that had taken place in the United States of America. But still they were met by the phrase, "Voluntarism." Now, there was often nothing more judicious than to dissect a phrase. Nations had been led into all sorts of blunders by phrases, and there were a great many statesmen who knew that very well, and who traded in phrases as a regular part of their capital stock. (Laughter and cheers.) Now, in religion he believed what was called the voluntary principle was not only true, but was absolutely indispensable. But, then, it did not follow that because that phrase was truly applied to one subject, it might be applied at random to any subject that any man chose to affix it to. America was a country in which Voluntarism was understood quite as well as in this country, and in which it had been understood for a much longer period than it had been understood and recognized with us. They repudiated in America the application of that principle to the question of education. In fact, for more than 200 years, in some of the States—in one or more, certainly, of the States of America—a system of general State or National education had been in existence. And, with regard to centralization, nobody said that the United States were less free because they had a system of public education. They were not less energetic. Why, they heard on all hands how far they were outstripping us. The tonnage in New York was equal to that owned in London and Liverpool. Cities, manufactures, agriculture—everything which we had been accustomed to pride ourselves upon, was growing up there with a rapidity of which the world hitherto afforded no example. But he was one of those who were not at all disposed to depreciate what had been done by the voluntary effort. On the contrary, he thought one of the noblest spectacles that had ever been shown before the world was in the vast results of voluntary zeal and benevolence and kindness to our fellow-men which were exhibited before us through every part of the United Kingdom. They did not find in the United States that what was called the voluntary system had absorbed the organized and the local or the municipal; but, on the contrary, the voluntary and accidental had been gradually absorbed by the organized and municipal; and therefore, seeing a people as intelligent as any on the face of the earth, having the two systems working before them, and finding that the one gradually retired, and the other gradually overtook it, and became a substitute for it, he thought, at any rate, they might quote that example as a proof—perhaps the most prominent proof they could have—that where the two systems could be seen together, intelligent and earnest men chose the organized and the municipal over the voluntary and accidental system. With regard to what was to be done, he agreed with Mr. Gibson entirely, that if they could not have it on a municipal system, and manage it themselves, and it was to be held that their great and powerful and respectable corporation was to do nothing but collect rates for Lord Granville or his successors at the Privy Council to expend—then, he must say, he would take no part whatever in any action to promote a system of general education. The question was, why was it that a system which was established in America, which everybody applauded, which all persons submitted to with probably greater satisfaction than they subscribed to any other State impost, whatever, could not be transplanted into one of our towns? There was not a sect in England that did not exist in America. The only difference was, they had not an Established Church. But, then, it must be taken for granted that a great number of men connected with some of these sects had just as strong opinions as men in the Established Church, or any of the other sects in this country. Well, then, that was the great religious difficulty which they had to get over; and his honest opinion was, that it was a difficulty real until you laid hold of it—imaginary the moment you grappled with it." (Cheers and laughter.)

Mr. Cobden endeavoured to show the error of Mr. Baines in regarding the question of education as one inseparably connected with the operations of religious training. There are five millions of people in Great Britain who do not go either to church or chapel; how can religious organizations reach them?—It is said that secular education will promote infidelity: no such thing—the first step to bring these people to the churches and chapels will be to tempt their children to schools. Their Voluntary friends would have plenty to do under the secular system.

"I promise Mr. Baines, and all who are thinking



with him, if they are alarmed with the idea that Voluntaryism will have nothing to do with rate-supported schools, that the management of those schools, and the levying of rates, and the settling of the controversies which must arise preliminary to any very extensive usefulness on this question, and all the other labour incidental to the management of these schools, shall call into use and into activity ten men engaged in the cause of secular education for every one man now at work in connexion with churches or chapels in this country; and if it does not do that, the system itself cannot work at all. But I only say, with regard to the liberality of individuals in their several localities, that I maintain there will be plenty of scope for the peculiar liberality—the munificence of the people of this country and the voluntary donations of liberal-minded men. I take America, for instance, where such an immense amount of money is levied by rates for the support of schools. Why, the amount given in aid and support of schooling by individuals there would put to shame anything that is done in this country. Look at the endowment in Philadelphia by Stephen Gerard, where the amount is measured by millions. Look at the library established in New York by Jacob Astor, which amounted to 200,000 dollars. In *The Times* of this very day I see it recorded, in a summary of last year's events in America, that one gentleman made a donation of 600,000 dollars to an educational institution in New York State, and another has presented 500,000 dollars for the same purpose. Therefore, our friends need not be alarmed."

As to the alarm that was felt on the score of religion, he would mention that in America there were, according to a little volume by the Rev. J. H. Hinton, upwards of 3,000,000 of Protestant communicants, which were increasing at the rate of 100,000 a-year; and there was this emphatic statement added, that there had been nothing like it in the progress of religion since the time of the apostles. Well, but this is in a country where religion is entirely divorced from the secular schools. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Cobden declared his disbelief in the existence of active scepticism in the country: all the sceptics could be put into a drawing-room, and be as harmless a clique as any drawing-room ever contained. If the result of the meeting that night should be to bring over Mr. Baines and Mr. Miall, and all who hold the views of those gentlemen, it would be one of the best days they had ever had, and he should look back with pleasure to the part he had taken in it. (Great cheering.)

The Rev. Dr. McKerrow and Dr. Watts subsequently addressed the meeting.

#### AN ADMIRABLE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

The *Rochdale Sentinel* contains an account of the opening of an institution for educational and religious purposes, to which we are anxious to give prominence, in the hope that the example may be followed in other parts of our manufacturing districts, and because the agency is specially adapted to reach that large class which constitute the bulk of the five million absentees from religious worship:—

Some two years ago, a Sunday-school was established in an unoccupied house in Holland-street, Rochdale, kindly lent for the purpose. At first it only numbered some 30 or 40, but owing to the diligent efforts of the teachers it has been so successful as to increase to near 400, and to require for its efficient working more commodious premises. This want has been generously supplied by George Ashworth, Esq., of Roche House, who has erected, on his property in Holland-street, principally for the use of these teachers, a building admirably adapted for educational purposes. The erection is two storeys high, and covers an area of about 300 square yards. The lower storey is divided by a spacious lobby, from which there is an entrance to ten cheerful, well-lighted class-rooms. We would call the attention of persons erecting schools to the obvious advantages of the separate class-room system. From this lobby two staircases lead into the upper storey, which is a room capable of accommodating upwards of 600 persons. A portion of the room is ceiled off for the purpose of a night school and reading room. The premises and fittings have, we understand, cost, exclusive of the land, more than £1,100, and we trust that the institution will be of great use to the neighbourhood. On Sunday last, the preaching room was opened by the Rev. S. Dunn, of Sheffield, who delivered in the morning and evening two excellent discourses, and in the afternoon Mr. Swale, of Leeds, gave an address to the teachers, scholars, and parents. These services were attended by crowded audiences, some of whom expressed their disappointment that there was "no collection!"

On Tuesday evening, the anniversary tea-party was held in the new school-room, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion, when above 400 persons were present. The Rev. S. Todd, Baptist minister, having opened the proceedings with singing and prayer, G. Ashworth, Esq., was called upon to preside, and after he had made a few brief introductory remarks, Mr. G. L. Ashworth, the Secretary, referred to their great success. The small number we at first had, has increased up to this time; we have 166 boys, and 186 girls, which, with the teachers, make a total of 393. There was a library of upwards of 500 volumes. I have had a report this day placed in my hands from Mr. Curtis, the teacher of the night school, who has devoted four nights in the week for the instruction of those that attend. The number on the books of the night school is 85 boys and 62 girls, and the average attendance is 70 boys and 45 girls. Three fellowship or class meetings are held during the week, the attendance is from 70 to 90.

The Rev. Mr. Parkinson, Independent minister, said that there was one thing to which he must allude. They were without a name. He was very glad they

were without a name. He wished them to have none. Ever since he had come to Rochdale, he had had a project in his mind, which was to establish a young men's association, which should open a field for all sects to join and make themselves useful. Now, he could not start that project because he was joined to a sect. They were in a fit position to start such a movement, because they were not encumbered with that bugbear—a name. A number of young men—for he could see plenty about him—could form a class and take in the magazines, which were published periodically, and many useful books, which it was impossible for one single individual to obtain. They might throw it open to all the town, and occasionally have a prayer meeting. This would be a great step towards doing away with sectional differences. (Much cheering.)

Mr. William Swale, of Leeds, congratulated the meeting on the present state of the school. He said there had been a great deal of nursing and work. The teachers of that school were the best he ever knew; their hearts were in the work. He recommended parents to come to the addresses given on Sundays, and co-operate with the teachers in the training of their children. He spoke highly of the valuable assistance rendered by the chairman, and that without being asked; and concluded amid loud cheers.

Mr. Edmund Ashworth said—This building is something like a newly-launched ship; it was launched last Sunday. When a vessel is launched, there is a host of questions put about it; so it is with this. Who built it? Voluntaryism. Who has chartered it? Voluntaryism. Who works it? Voluntaries. What is its cargo? 393 souls. Well, how does the ship look to-night? Is there a sailor in this room who will flinch? If we have a battle the coming year, is there one who will refuse to ascend the topmast? If they had truth for their polar star, faith for their figure-head, and hope for their anchor, they would be prepared for every storm. He trusted that on that deck, each Sabbath morn, would be seen the sacred volume, at once their compass and their chart; and if each who from time to time stood there, as he then did, humbly and in fear for a moment to take the helm, would only rightly read its teachings, and teach its readings, many in eternity would rejoice that they had come on board, and were taught how to navigate life's stormy sea, and finally make the haven of rest. He pressed the young men present, who had not yet commenced a career of usefulness, to join them; nor listlessly wait till the busy teacher had time to invite them, but at once to volunteer.

Mr. Norris Taylor next pointed out to the wives and mothers present, how much they might do to prevent crime, by making home happy and comfortable, and read an excellent extract bearing on the subject, which elicited repeated applause.

Addresses were subsequently delivered by Mr. J. Scowcroft, Mr. W. Todd, Mr. E. Taylor, Mr. S. Milne, Mr. J. Ashworth, and Mr. J. P. Dicken, and, after a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the proceedings were closed by the singing of a hymn.

The School Room will be open every Sunday evening for public worship, to be conducted by ministers of various denominations, who have hitherto kindly assisted. The Rev. Henry Parkinson was to preach a special sermon last Sabbath morning.

#### ROYAL JENNERIAN AND LONDON VACCINE INSTITUTION.

A MEETING in connexion with this institution was held yesterday, the 24th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, W. H. Ashurst, Esq., in the chair.

The chairman introduced the subjects to be brought forward, by remarking, that in all matters connected with human progress, every man had a right to that amount of liberty which was consistent with the enjoyment of the same amount by all others, and no legislation had a right to interfere to limit that freedom. It would appear from the report that a limitation had been attempted in the Vaccine Act of last session, and it must be inferred, as all such limitations were injurious, that this attempted limitation would also be. The longer man lived, and the more he observed, added the chairman, the more it was found that the agency of conviction was the great agency by which all mighty movements, permanently beneficial, must be brought about.

After the usual routine business was gone through, Dr. Epps read the following

#### REPORT.

During the last year, legislation has been trying to effect what individual conviction alone has the power of legitimately realizing. Vaccination is a good. A majority agree that this is a fact. Like everything that is good, its goodness, if left to work by its own agency, appealing as it does to man in the necessities connected with his bodily conditions, will effect its own diffusion.

The misfortune however, is, that no sooner does a good present itself, and by its goodness gain itself a place in public estimation, than legislators interfere, and determine to give to goodness a legal status. These unwisely active men practically declare, we will add to the omniscience and omnipotence of Heaven, embodied in the making the good a good, and in its goodness all potent, the omnipotence of Parliament.

The Board of Managers of the Royal Jennerian and London Vaccine Institution, have the belief—that a sanction derivable from a good, the good itself being a manifestation of the benevolent will of the Creator, that sanction being strengthened by the benefits to man, from it, thus derived—needs not any Parliamentary attestation. The only additional sanction is to be found in the conviction resulting from the good, which conviction, once established, is potent for all useful purposes; and the Board of Managers further believe, that any legislative imprimatur on a good, of

Heaven's creation and appointment, cannot be needed, since a conviction of benefit from the good must in time be established; and if such conviction has not as yet been established, such legislative imprimatur will tend to delay the diffusion of the good, by means distinct from its own goodness—by means which, of necessity compulsory, render impure and ineffective the agency of that goodness.

Apply these views to vaccine and its protective power against the small-pox. Vaccination being a good, has established itself where civilisation extends, enlisting thousands, even millions in its behalf. Why not let it go on progressing as it has progressed, by its own goodness? Why not let it go on gaining victories over the opposition that ignorance, prejudice, or even misdirected science, may bring against it?

In the year 1841, the Board of Managers protested against the Vaccination Act just passed by the legislature; this Act enabling parishes to enter into contracts with medical men to perform vaccination on the poor. In this protest, the venerable Dr. Labatt, the manager of the Vaccine Institution in Dublin, joined. Both protesting parties predicted that the result would be, that many persons vaccinated by these vaccinators would be certified as protected by vaccination, when they really were not so; and would thus, if exposed to small-pox, become, by the carelessness resulting from the belief of their safety, easy victims to the disease, and thus would do damage to the cause of vaccination, inasmuch as they would receive small pox after vaccination, but improperly so called.

It was imagined by the advocates of the Act, that it would fulfil every object connected with the diffusion of vaccination. The result not having tallied with the expectation of these zealots, who seek to make people healthy by Act of Parliament, they forthwith seek additional legislative interference, and proceed to make people take the benefit which Parliament, in its omnipotence, had provided, and they, during the last session of Parliament, hastened through the legislature another act, by which every child is compelled to be vaccinated.

It seems strange that Lord Lyttleton, who parented the Vaccine Act of last session, should have acted so contrary to the teachings of his late chief, Sir Robert Peel. This great statesman, when some one proposed to make vaccination compulsory, as it is made in some despotic countries, objected, remarking, that such a proceeding would be so opposite to the mental habits of the British people, and the freedom of opinion in which they rightly glorified, that he could be no party to such compulsion.

The Board of Managers agree with Sir Robert Peel; they hold that small-pox is a dreadful malady; they hold that the mode to be adopted to prevent small-pox is a matter of opinion; they hold, with Mr. Justice Taunton, that people have a right, provided they do not injure their neighbours, to have the mode of prevention they deem the best; they hold that a parent has the right to have the mode of treatment by inoculation, for the introduction of which Lady Wortley Montagu was at first so much opposed, but subsequently so much and so deservedly extolled. To these beliefs they add their unhesitating belief, that the mode of prevention devised by Jenner is the true mode, being in accordance with the law of cure appointed by the Creator; and to this they add their conviction, that this mode will entirely supersede the method by inoculation.

In relation to these expressions of their belief, the Board may refer to the indisputable fact, that the Royal Jennerian and London Vaccine Institution has been giving a most effective aid for nearly half-a-century in establishing the efficacy of vaccination, having effected this operation on 253,308 individuals.

Who, however, can doubt that, of late years, the belief in the efficacy of vaccination has been shaken? The Board believe the existence of this doubt has arisen from the circumstance, that modern vaccinators have not exhibited the care, and have not pursued the directions of Jenner, and of his successor, Walker. The Vaccine Act of 1840 further added to this disrepute, as it put into the hands of individuals who did not understand perfect vaccination, the act of vaccinating. It is now attempted to set aside this disrepute by compulsory legislation, instead of trusting to the re-establishment of the excellence of vaccination by re-establishing vaccine in all its perfectness.

This latter can be done. In 1844 the vaccine had fallen into total disrepute in India, the Board of Directors of the East India Company applied to the Royal Jennerian and London Vaccine Institution for aid. Vaccine was forwarded from the Institution to India, and the efficacy of vaccination by the re-establishment of the genuine vaccine was again dominant in the public mind of India. Letters from the East India Company were read establishing these matters.

The futility of legislative interference in establishing a good is seen in the result, that such interference is generally unwise and frequently ineffective.

Thus, in the Vaccine Act of last session, the grossest ignorance of vaccination is exhibited. The object of the Act is to ensure, that all children should be vaccinated so as to be safe from the attack of small-pox. To ensure this safety, it is necessary that the vaccine vesicle, produced by the introduction of the vaccine virus, should assume its special form, surrounded with its special areola; and that, also, after the vesicle has passed away, a perfect vaccine crust, or scab, should present itself at the place where the vesicle was.

The first condition is present on the eighth day after vaccination: the second is present on the fifteenth day after vaccination.

In the Vaccine Act the person vaccinated is required to be examined by the vaccinator on the eighth day after vaccination, and then a certificate of protection is given; that is, a certificate is given before the certainty of protection against small-pox can be possessed or demonstrated.



This ignorance on the matter of vaccination on the part of legislators, when presuming to legislate on the subject, is highly disgraceful; for any one, properly informed on the subject of vaccination knows, that, in many cases, though the vaccine vesicle may present a perfect appearance on the eighth day, the progress of the vaccine after that date may be so interfered with, as to prevent the formation of a perfect crust or scab; which, if not produced, demonstrates that the child is not protected: yet, as already stated, for the recognition of this certain evidence of perfection, there is no provision in the Act of last session.

This legislative ignorance has a worse character; it is tyrannical. This Act imposes penalties on persons who do not submit to its enactments. A parent or guardian is by this Act liable to fine, and even imprisonment, if he does not take his child to be vaccinated; i.e., to be protected from small-pox; and yet the Act by which he is made liable to fine and imprisonment for non-obedience to its requirements does not, as already explained, ensure the protection of the child. This is tyranny.

Mark, also, another evil. Medical men vaccinating, being called upon to certify on the eighth day after vaccination, will, if obedient to the Act, bow their judgments to a fallacy; i.e., will do an act which they ought not to do at the time appointed in the Act, because the Act requires them: they will testify to protection being certain when nature has not completed her act of testification.

What a lamentable state of things is exhibited here. If Lord Lytton brought in this Act without obtaining medical advice, how deficient in the care requisite in a legislator was he: if he had advice, how ignorant must have been his medical advisers.

The Board of Managers protest against such legislation. It has been asked, Why should not Parliament interfere in reference to vaccination? Parliament interferes and makes people construct sewers and drains. It is so; and Parliament has caused, by its legislation, all the manure of great cities like London—manure, which might fertilize the acres of England, and render those acres tenfold more productive—to roll into the river Thames, and thus, as has been rendered probable by the elaborate statements of the Registrar General, has made the river the poisoner of those that drink its waters, the poisoning power being in exact relation to the quantity of manure poured in—the Thames water supplied from the river above Kew being less destructive than that supplied from the river at Chelsea, and that being less destructive than that supplied from the river near London Bridge.

Another point of view in which the injuriousness of the Act of last session becomes apparent is this:—The Act requires the Registrar of Births to give to the parent or the guardian who brings the child to be registered as to its birth, a notice to have the child vaccinated. The effect of the registry of births being identified with the vaccination notice will injure the operation of the Act of Registration of Births. Any parent who disapproves of vaccination (and it is worthy of note, that Dr. Gregory, who for nearly half a century practised vaccination, and presided as well over the Small-pox Hospital, had, before his death, great doubts respecting vaccination and its protective efficacy), will avoid registering his child, and thus a most valuable agency will be interfered with.

It may be urged, that if a parent does not have his child's birth registered, and thus escapes the reception of the notice from the Registrar of Births to have his child vaccinated, some neighbour will inform the Registrar of his neglect, and thus the law will lay hold of him. What, then, will result? The establishment of a system of espionage, and the consequent creation of an immense amount of ill-will. Such a state of things is quite unsuited to the horizon of Great Britain. It may pass in despotic countries, where the size of coffins, and the route the funeral cortege must travel, are laid down by bureaucratic interference; but this meddling of the executive—this spy system—is not as yet recognized in England.

Supposing such a system should spread, and a parent refuses to have his child vaccinated. He is informed against; he is fined; he will not pay; his goods are seized; they are not sufficient to pay the fines (and the fines laid in the act are cumulative); he is imprisoned. The child is deprived of his parent; the wife of her husband. What happens? A reaction in his favour is produced; the informer is hated; the law is looked upon as oppressive; a dogged resistance is created against the law; and vaccination, that has worked its way hitherto, and will work its way if properly practised, gets an injury that years will not heal.

These views the Board of Managers have thought it their duty to bring before the Governors, more especially as this action of the Legislature, while likely, from the causes stated, to do injury to the cause of vaccination, is almost sure to exert an injurious influence on the interests of the Royal Jennerian and London Vaccine Institution, and through the Institution on the public interests, as many will be induced to withhold aid from the Institution under the idea, that vaccination being now recognised by the legislature, private aid is no longer needed.

The Board maintains, that, in reference to vaccination, the existence of this Institution is a necessity. There must be a central body, which, by the extent of its operations, can ensure a constant supply of vaccine virus. Such is the Royal Jennerian and London Vaccine Institution. It has all the requirements necessary. Its director has vaccinated upwards of one hundred and sixty-three thousand, and consequently has the requisite experience. Last year, four thousand five hundred persons were vaccinated at the Institution, affording a supply of vaccine equal to every emergency.

The Board of Managers conclude their report by stating, that all this good has been effected at an expense of £245 11s. 7d.

The income during the past year has amounted to £253 1s. 11d.

The Institution is still in debt £255.

It is to be hoped that this sum will, by the exertions of the friends of the Institution, perhaps by the zeal of some one benevolent individual, be liquidated.

Every exertion is required. The Governors are appealed to for their continued aid, and are requested to bring the Institution under the notice of the benevolent; for is it just, is it proper, that an Institution like the Royal Jennerian, which has an European, an Asiatic, a Colonial, and a home reputation, should be thus positioned?

### Foreign and Colonial.

#### COUP D'ETAT AT MADRID.

On the 18th the Minister of Justice resigned, and his place supplied *ad interim* by the Minister of Finance. The Generals Manuel de la Concha and O'Donnell were exiled to the Canaries, General Jose Concha to the Balearic Islands, and General Armero to Leon. The first four have already set out. M. Zaragoza has been replaced as Governor of Madrid by M. Quinto.

The two first-named generals now banished were the head and front of the Opposition, and had signed their names first to a memorial to the Queen, which also bore the signatures of MM. Gonzales Bravo, Rios, Rosas, and Generals Infante and Madon, representing the situation as full of danger, and demanding the immediate assembling of the Cortes. It had been arranged that a deputation of the Opposition should present this memorial to the Queen herself as soon as the physicians should pronounce her Majesty able to attend to public business.

Decrees for modifying the Senate and further curtailing the liberty of the press are expected forthwith.

#### ITALY.

It is again reported that the Austrian Government meditates some measure of amnesty towards political refugees, either on the occasion of the Emperor's marriage, or his subsequent tour through the provinces. Promises of this kind have so often been made in word, and broken in spirit, that little reliance is placed, now on the reported good intentions of the Sovereign, and no hopes are entertained that a Government, with an annually increasing debt, and surrounded by embarrassments, will ever voluntarily make restitution of the property it has so nefariously appropriated, or heartily forgive those whom it is conscious of having most unjustly expatriated.

An important bill concerning the Jews has been presented to the Piedmontese Chambers by the Government. By this bill, the Israelite population of the kingdom, now divided into the Universities of Piedmont, Monferrato, Alessandria, and Nice, are authorised to exercise self-government in matters relating to their religion and worship. For this purpose, the Israelites of the kingdom are divided into twenty electoral circles, each of which is to elect a representative to a General Assembly, which is to meet at Turin every third year, or whenever the Minister of the Interior shall convoke it. The General Assembly fixes the duties of the rabbis, the taxes for the cost of public worship, the general budget, the stipend of Grand Rabbi, &c. One half of the General Assembly is renewed every three years. The General Assembly appoints a central direction of five members, whose duties consist in executing the deliberations of the Assembly, exercising vigilance over all the Hebrew communities of the kingdom, suspending rabbis, &c. Every University elects a council of administration, composed of five members, for the superintendence of local interests and worship. The Government is empowered to determine, by Royal decrees, the minor rules to be observed in the execution of the above measure.

The usual complaint reaches us from the Romagna, that the inhabitants live in fear of robbers, not daring to leave their houses after nightfall. The theatre is deserted at Faenza. The exportation of wheat is prohibited from that district, and the Romagna are dependent on Forlì and Ravenna for supplies.

The *Trieste Zeitung*, learn that the state of public feeling in Turin is just what it would be if Sardinia was on the eve of a war with Austria. The French "private secretary," M. Brenier, who left Turin for Milan on the 5th, has recently had many conferences with M. de Cavour, and it is rumoured that an alliance offensive and defensive has been concluded between France and Sardinia.

The last accounts from Milan say a few arrests had taken place lately, and the price of provisions was beginning to rise in Lombardy.

At Milan, says the *Italia e Popolo*, the rigours of the police have rather augmented than diminished: the *carta di iscrizione* has really become a *carta di security*, since it is not enough that people have it by them at home, but it must be carried about at all hours of the day, in all places. In your carriage, on horseback, on foot, and in the diligence, in a hackney coach, on the railroad, every half hour an agent of the Government may call upon you for your card. Should you have left it at home in the dress which you changed before starting, be sure you will pass a night in the tower upon straw, with ammunition bread and water.

In the railroad conveyances there is a waggon for the police, and they are enabled to pass along from carriage to carriage during the journey, and compel the exhibition of the card. At the theatre this card must be shown together with the ticket of admittance. You have more chance of passing without the latter, than if not furnished with, or having forgotten the former.

#### INDIA AND CHINA.

##### SUPPRESSION OF INFANTICIDE—AN INDIAN MEETING.

Some time ago it was stated that a great meeting would be held at Umritsir, in the Punjab, to check

infanticide. The following letter, written from that town by a lady, describes the meeting:—"The Umritsir meeting was most splendid. Every civilian in the Punjab was there. The street of the camp was nearly a quarter of a mile long, and composed entirely of civilians' double-poled tents. It was calculated that more than 20,000 natives, independent of the usual inhabitants, were assembled at the holy city to listen to the Governor-General's order on the subject of infanticide. On Monday, the 14th November, all were invited to come to the Durbar at eleven o'clock. A small apartment with a fine bamboo screen was provided for the few ladies who were present, that they might witness the scene. It was most magnificent. There were 3,000 natives inside the grand shemena; 300 were of sufficient rank to have chairs allowed them, which were placed in a semicircle at the end of the tent; at the end of this semicircle stood all the assembled civilians. All the old Sikh generals and rulers were there, and among them many Hill chiefs who had never before been tempted out of their native mountains. All those who were not entitled to chairs were seated on the ground, and presented one large, compact mass of human heads. There was the most profound silence in this brilliant assembly, when Mr. Edmunstone, on whom, in Mr. John Lawrence's absence, devolved the duty of opening and explaining the object of this important meeting, rose to speak. He made an excellent Hindostanee address, denouncing female infanticide as barbarous, cruel, and unholy; and so powerfully did that address influence his hearers, that every native present signed a solemn agreement, on oath, never again to allow female infanticide within the circle of his acquaintance without denouncing the perpetrators. Hitherto the Hill chiefs, and many of the Sikh tribes, have adopted the cruel practice of murdering their female children, rather than bear the great expense of their foolish marriage ceremonies. Government has now limited those expenses to certain sums, proportioned to the rank of the parents, which just now is viewed as a blessing to all parties; and all the chiefs expressed their satisfaction and delight at the new law. You cannot imagine a more splendid scene of Oriental magnificence than the breaking up and separation of this vast assemblage; the chiefs mounted on their splendid elephants, attended by their numerous followers. In the evening the whole city, together with the far-famed holy tank of Umritsir, was splendidly illuminated. At sunset, we all assembled in the camp-street, and formed so large a party that twelve elephants were borrowed from the chiefs for our accommodation; they all stood ready, in a line, laden with scarlet and gold, their heads and trunks painted with different devices. The scene in every direction was strange and interesting. The city was as light as day, and was literally crammed with people. As our twelve elephants, with their glittering trappings, followed each other in stately procession, it was curious to look back upon the long narrow streets and the tall and irregular houses, blazing with rows of lamps in long lines, until almost lost in the distance. At the entrance of the holy tank, the crowd was so dense that they looked like one solid mass. We were conducted to a position from which we could see the whole square, and where carpets and seats were prepared for us. I cannot attempt to describe the magnificent spectacle that met us there. The golden temple, the steps round the tank, the very water itself seemed on fire: around the edge were packed 20,000 people, and the murmur of their voices came up like the roar of the sea in a storm. At the signal of a cannon, fireworks broke out on every side; fountains of fire fell from the roofs and rose from the boats in the middle of the tank, rockets pierced the air and fell again in showers, and fire-balloons in great numbers had the appearance of so many new stars. This period was chosen for the meeting because it is a great Hindoo festival, which always collects crowds at Umritsir, being connected with the worship of fire."

The telegraphic despatch in anticipation of the overland Mail arrived yesterday. No mails have arrived from Australia, though one was due.

The Governor-General of India left Calcutta on the 9th December for Burmah. A conspiracy at Rangoon was frustrated on the 23rd of November by the preparations of the British authorities. Trade in India was dull. The Resident of Bushire has reported that 60,000 Persians had reached that neighbourhood, with the object of invading the Pashalik of Bagdad.

A combined naval and military expedition is being rapidly organised by the Bombay Government to carry out any orders it may receive from England, or from the Governor-General. The important territory of Berar, the garden of India, has lapsed to the British Government by the death of its ruler without issue. Lord Elphinstone arrived at Bombay on the 25th of December. Lord Falkland left Bombay on the 3rd of December, and on the 12th of January arrived at Cairo.

Tranquillity prevails at Canton, and at Amoy the constituted authorities have been restored. The insurgent army had, at the end of October, reached Ginken, about 60 miles from Pekin. Shanghai is still in the hands of the rebels. At Canton trade was dull. At Shanghai trade was brisk, and supplies of tea large.

#### AMERICAN NOTES.

The Clayton-Bulwer treaty is likely to be the occasion of animated debate in the United States Senate—the point in dispute being, whether in that document Great Britain consented to abandon her rights, claims, and possessions (British Honduras included) in Central America, or not. American statesmen insist upon it that she did. Mr. Cass had asked in the Senate for information, and the President on the following day sent in a budget of correspondence, including two letters having a marked bearing on the dispute—one from Lord Clarendon, and the other from Mr. J. D. Harding, the Queen's advocate. Lord Clarendon dis-



claims any idea of ever obtaining exclusive control over the proposed canal, or in Central America, but states positively, that England never renounced, nor ever had any intention of renouncing, "the full and absolute right which she possesses over her own lawful territories in Central America." Nor has she renounced her protection over the Musquito kingdom, though she does not object to place it on such a footing, securing the rights of the Musquito king, as all nations interested might agree upon. Mr. Harding's letter fortifies Lord Clarendon's views. He says that Mr. Clayton's assertion that Great Britain has abandoned all dominions in Central America is incorrect, and at variance with the fact, at least as regards Belize and its dependencies (British Honduras).

The slavery question is likely once more to be agitated in Congress. Senator Douglass, from Illinois, a popular and vigorous young man, who lacked but a few votes in the Baltimore Convention of being nominated as the candidate of the National Democratic party, has, in his capacity as Chairman of Territories, brought before the Senate a bill for the inauguration of Nebraska into a territory. He is understood to be a staunch National Democrat, and distinguished himself by his eloquent advocacy of the great compromise measures of 1850. In his Nebraska Bill he has incorporated the conditions of the compromise measures, viz.:—the people of the territory are left free to establish African slavery within their limits or not, as they may elect; and the provisions and obligations of the Fugitive Slave Law are to extend over the territory. This will bring up the whole subject of slavery, and probably give rise to exciting, and perhaps, angry debates.

There has been another large fire in New York, the La-farge-house and Metropolitan-hall having been entirely destroyed on the morning of the 8th inst. The loss was estimated at \$500,000.

Intelligence had been received in San Francisco, on the 13th ult., that a number of foragers had been attacked by a party of Rancheros from San Thomas, and, after a slight skirmish, the Americans were forced to retreat, leaving about 20 of their number dead upon the field. 300 men had been despatched from San Francisco in pursuit of the assailants, each armed with a rifle, two revolvers, and a bowie knife.

The intelligence from the mining districts was very satisfactory.

The question of annexation continues to be agitated in the Sandwich Islands.

The steam-ship "San Francisco" sailed from New York on the 18th of December, with upwards of 700 persons on board, the greater portion of whom belonged to an American artillery regiment bound for California. On the 24th she was struck by a sea, and had her decks swept, masts, &c., carried away, and machinery disabled. She continued in this pitiable state until the 1st of January, when her passengers and crew were taken off by passing ships. 142 persons were washed overboard previously to the above ships falling in with the "San Francisco," and 59 died after being received on board the "Antarctic."

According to the New York correspondent of the *Times*, when the intelligence of the above wreck arrived in that city, application was instantly made to Government for the despatch of a vessel to the assistance of the disabled steamer, when the confession was extorted that "there was not a Government vessel in any port of the United States ready to go to sea." The navy of the United States, it is stated, has no substantial existence. If it could be even got to sea at all, it could be demolished in 20 minutes by a French or English squadron, and if war were to break out, any maritime power could, in three weeks' time, sail into any American harbour and burn its buildings to the ground. The American Government is said to be contemplating an addition of six new screw propellers to the national fleet.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Four persons have been killed by wolves in different parts of France. A driver who was attacked scared away the wolves by lighting a box of lucifers.

A black slave has been executed at Rio de Janeiro for murdering his master; the origin of the crime was a dispute about an assassination which the owner had directed his slave to perform! The execution was performed by a fellow-prisoner in fetters.

A decree in the *Madrid Gazette* appoints a biennial exhibition of works of fine art. With characteristic exclusiveness, it is ordered that foreign artists shall only exhibit works actually produced in Spain.

The late Mr. Peter Cooper, of New York, has left nearly half a million of dollars to found an institution for the diffusion of education.

The Rev. Dr. Nott, for fifty years President of Union College in the State of New York, has made a donation of 600,000 dollars to the institution.

In the Champs Elysees, Paris, a well-dressed person appeared, a few days ago, with a great number of bladders, each nearly filled with pure hydrogen gas, covered with a net-work of silk, and attached to his body by means of a strap fastened to a belt beneath his arms. The bladders possessed a sufficient ascensional force to diminish the weight of the man by three-fourths, without lifting him from the ground. Thus lightened, he was able to take leaps of five or six yards at a time with extraordinary rapidity.

The Diet of Oldenburg has approved the convention concluded between the Government of that duchy and Prussia, which concedes to the latter the establishment of a military port on the Jahde. The new Prussian navy is to consist of twelve frigates of 60 guns; ten steam-corvettes of from 8 to 12 guns; fourteen despatch-steamers of 4 guns; five transports, thirty-six gun-boats, and six smaller craft; in all, ninety-four vessels, at a cost of fourteen millions of dollars.

The Federal Assembly of Switzerland was opened at Berne on the 9th instant. The President referred, but in vague terms, to the relation between Switzer-

land and Austria. "If we are asked for a solution," he said, "I beg of you to take the demand into serious consideration; for if a solution is asked, it is not a common solution, but a solution at all price. A people that has suffered for ten months with constancy and dignity will not lightly risk the loss of its noble devotion. An honourable solution ought to be possible now that all is cleared up, even the inutility of hostile measures adopted; but what is certainly possible is the fraternal word and vivifying action of this high Assembly speaking and acting in the name of the nation."

At Potsdam, a few days ago, a young man was found hanging by the neck to a large marble figure of Jesus Christ on the Cross. He was immediately cut down, and conveyed to the hospital. Having partially recovered, he stated that he belonged to the sect of Old Lutherans or Pietists; and that being anxious to secure his salvation in the world to come, he had long determined to die as Christ died; that he had frequently attempted to crucify himself, but had not courage to execute the design; and that at last, after a violent struggle with his bad passions, he had hanged himself to the cross. About a quarter of an hour after making this statement he died.

When H.M. ship "Serpent" left Sydney in July last, the Imperial Russian corvette "Dwina" had paid a visit to that port, and was there about a fortnight. She was reported to be on her way to Pietro-Paulowski.

An immense railway club or hotel is proposed to be formed at Paris, where travellers will find everything they require.

Count Karnicky, Austrian Chargé d'Affaires to the Swiss Confederation, has just received another four months' leave of absence. This is regarded as a reply to the resolute tone held in the first sitting of the Federal Assembly.

According to the *National Gazette* of Berlin, the Austrian Government has abandoned the project of establishing a corps of observation on the frontiers of Turkey. Financial embarrassments have been the principal grounds of this resolution.

#### THE WAR.

##### PATH OF THE VIENNA PROPOSALS.

According to advices from St. Petersburg, of the 14th, the Emperor of Russia has determined on giving a very decided reply to the French and English note. This reply will be sent through the Czar's ambassadors at London and Paris. There is every reason to believe that the Emperor has already rejected the Vienna proposals as quite incompatible with his dignity. The *Times* Vienna correspondent says that the following reply may be implicitly relied on as forming part of the next Russian declaration:—

"The Vienna propositions, besides being incompatible with the Emperor's dignity, only serve to divert attention from the real question at issue between Russia and the Porte, and they are, therefore, unconditionally rejected."

"To prove, however, that he is still inclined to treat, the Emperor has appointed Prince Gortschakoff, his Plenipotentiary; and to him the Porte has to apply whenever it is inclined to negotiate. Such a step on the part of the Porte will, however, be useless should it act under the erroneous impression that the Emperor will depart from any condition laid down by Prince Menschikoff."

"Any Plenipotentiary by the Porte must be provided with a firman, in which it is specified that the Porte, considering the present difference to be exclusively between Russia and itself, acknowledges that it must be settled between those two Powers themselves."

The *Times*, in a leading article on Monday, states that it has "strong reasons" for believing the above declaration to be authentic, for, although the Vienna propositions would not reach St. Petersburg till the 19th inst., Austria had no doubt given some indications of the proceedings of the Four Powers, to which this imperious answer is the response.

##### PUBLIC FEELING AND PREPARATIONS IN RUSSIA.

The following is the substance of a letter from St. Petersburg, dated the 13th:—Since the notification of the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea, the warlike ardour among the upper classes, which was never very strong, has considerably diminished; and among the other classes the enthusiasm has very much cooled. The poets keep silence, and the public writers no longer pour forth insults against England. The Court appears gloomy; the preparations for war have already cost enormous sums, and the Minister of Finance has laid his hands on the capitals of loan societies conducted by private persons. Nevertheless, a letter of the preceding day, the 12th, says: The Emperor is described by those who have an opportunity of observing his movements as living in a state of religious exaltation, regarding himself as the chosen instrument, under the hand of God, to drive the Moslem from Europe, and only regretting that he should have allowed so many years to pass by without fulfilling his destiny. The populace of St. Petersburg have worked themselves up to the highest pitch of fanaticism, cheering the Emperor when he appears in public with the wildest enthusiasm, and denouncing as traitors all who dare to speak of peace. The only Minister who is supposed to advocate a peaceful course is Count Nesselrode, and he has entirely lost his influence with his Imperial master. Count Orloff, on the other hand, who is the Emperor's dearest friend, is eager for war.

The *Cassel Gazette* announces that the Emperor of Russia has demanded 25 millions from the Warsaw Bank for the eventualities of war.

Hamburg letters allude to reports that the Czar is about to issue paper money to the extent of sixty millions of paper roubles, to meet the war expenditure.

Letters direct from St. Petersburg state that it is intended to form a depot of 150,000 soldiers at Moscow, to leave 100,000 in Poland, station another 100,000 in columns among the provinces of the Baltic and in Finland, and raise the army on the Danube to 200,000 and that of Asia to 100,000. The persons best acquainted with Russian statistics believe that these are merely figures of speech, and that Russia will have great difficulty in bringing together more than half the numbers here set down.

##### OPINIONS OF THE CZAR.

The *Press*, the weekly organ of Conservatism, publishes "The note of a conversation, very recently held at Gartschina, between his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia and an individual of distinction, whose character is not only a guarantee for the authenticity of the memorandum, but for the absence of any exaggeration or false colouring in its expressions." It is given, we are told, "simply as an important historical document, without identifying ourselves with the views which it conveys:—"

##### "NOTE."

"The Emperor repeated that, if there were war, he hoped that the English people would understand that it was not a war against Russian aggression, but a war brought about by the vacillating and insincere conduct of the English Ministry."

"He asserted that there was no power more interested in keeping the *status quo* of the Turkish dominions than Russia; that he was in possession of Constantinople 20 years ago; that he might then have kept it against the world, or permanently remained at the request of the late Sultan, which was urged on him, but that he quitted it for the reasons expressed in his letter to Count Orloff, and for other reasons of high policy."

"He said all that Russia required was free navigation, and so long as the Dardanelles were held by a Power not strong enough to refuse this free navigation to Russia he was content, and preferred the present disposition of territory to any possible change; that had he wished to seize Constantinople he could have done so with the greatest ease when Prince Menschikoff left the Porte. The seizure of Constantinople, the occupation of the Dardanelles, and the overthrow of the Sultan would have been an affair of a few days."

"That his merely crossing the Pruth proved to all who understood this question that he did not seek territorial aggrandizement."

"That all this was very well understood at Paris, and very well understood by Lord Aberdeen, who had acted throughout this business without moral courage."

"The Emperor said that since 1848 the religious element had become predominant in politics; that the emancipation of the Roman Catholic church in Germany, which then occurred, had greatly promoted this; that the state of the Greek Church rendered his interposition in Turkey a necessity."

"He added, that the religious relations of the subject of the Porte with various foreign Powers had always been recognized by European statesmen; that they had been encouraged, and by no one more than by Lord Aberdeen in former days, who perceived in these circumstances the solution of many difficulties."

"The writer, in reply to an inquiry, understood the Emperor distinctly to state that the *ultimatum* of Menschikoff had not been disapproved in London, but that the English Ministry, having been informed that it would probably be accepted by the Porte, had recognized it as a satisfactory settlement."

"The Emperor dwelt upon the inconsistency both of the English and the French Governments. England he said had herself devised the terms of settlement at Vienna, and when he cordially gave his adhesion to them, receded from her own propositions. The plea founded on the Nesselrode interpretation he treated with great contempt. He said it was placing the plea of an advocate in equilibrium with the decision of a Court."

"The Emperor said that England appeared to have two Governments. Things were agreed to in London or Vienna, and the same things objected to at Constantinople. Lord Westmoreland signs a note at Vienna sent out from St. James's; Lord Redcliffe recommends the Porte to disavow the same document."

"The Emperor spoke of the victory of Sinope, and of the absurdity, when the Porte had declared war against him, of his not acting upon the aggressive. He treated the statement that he had offered to act only on the defensive with derision; and, with reference to a passage in a private letter from Paris, that such an assurance had been given by his Majesty to the French Minister at the Court of St. Petersburg—viz., General Castelbejac—his Majesty observed, that when the news of the victory of Sinope arrived, the same General Castelbejac had addressed him a letter beginning something in this vein:—'As a Christian and a soldier, permit me, Sir, to congratulate your Imperial Majesty on the glorious victory obtained by your Majesty's fleet.' The Emperor was so pleased with this letter from the French Minister that he invited the General to Gartschina, and held much conversation with him, and the enthusiasm of the French General suffered no diminution. The Emperor entered into some details on this head, which the writer of this note is not at liberty to mention; all that is here stated he asked and obtained permission to make public. 'So much for my contract with General Castelbejac,' added the Emperor, 'one of the numerous romances invented to cloak the imbecility of Governments.'"

"The Emperor then recurred to the aspect of war at some length. He said that, far from desiring war a year ago, he was not even prepared for it. He was now prepared, and would act as became his personal honour and the greatness of Russia. It was the war, he frequently repeated, of incapacities, brought on by men who were timid, and accusing others freely of duplicity, were themselves deficient in everything that was straightforward. He did not believe that England, with a *bourgeois* Parliament, could carry on a war with glory. France, he frequently repeated, had been drawn into a mess which she did not desire. The Russians had beaten all with whom they had been pitted—Frederick the Great—Napoleon."

"The manner of his Imperial Majesty throughout this interview was temperate, rational, and frank; affable, with becoming dignity, and free from any of that excitement or wilfulness imputed to him in many journals."

\* When this conversation took place, the circular of M. Drouyn de Lhuys had not reached St. Petersburg.



## THE BLACK SEA.

On the 4th inst., the fleets having cleared the Straits of the Bosphorus and entered the Black Sea, the following signal was made from the *Britannia*, 120, carrying the flag of Admiral Dundas. "Our duty is to protect the ships and the territory of the Ottomans against all aggression and in any part of the Black Sea."

Letters from Constantinople of the 9th inst. state that the *Queen*, *Bellerophon*, and *Valmy*, which had been left at Buyukdere, have followed the squadrons into the Black Sea. This movement was supposed to be connected with the return of the *Retribution* from Sebastopol from her mission to the governor of that port, and was thought to signify that her message had been ill received.

Merchantmen arriving at Constantinople from the Black Sea, reported a Russian fleet between Redout-Kale and Batoum. The *Europa*, Austrian steamer from Trebisond, saw the combined fleets off Sinope, steering with a fair wind, and splendid weather, for Batoum. The Constantinople correspondent of the *Trieste Gazette* states that the government of Odessa had "obstinately refused" to give up the English engineers now in their custody.

A Russian galliot of war was brought up to Constantinople on the 5th, which had been captured at the entrance of the Bosphorus, where the captain had run for shelter. He said that he had been in search of the Russian fleet; which, according to his account, was in the neighbourhood of Batoum. The galliot was laden with military stores. Her crew consisted of twenty-seven men.

The Turkish fleet which followed in the wake of the combined squadrons, consists of five frigates and six transports, which conveyed 8,000 troops, besides artillery and ammunition. In addition to the reinforcements despatched to Batoum by the above convoy, six battalions of infantry and two companies of artillery will shortly be despatched to Kars.

Advices from Trieste state that ships of any nation taken in the Black Sea by Russian cruisers, with troops on board, will be declared lawful prizes.

It is stated, that on the news of the entry of the combined fleets into the Black Sea, the Austrian and Prussian ambassadors at Constantinople, sent a notification to Redschid Pasha to the effect that the step taken by France and England went beyond the agreement entered into by the Four Powers on the 12th of December.

The Russians are establishing at different points, and more especially in the Crimea, defensive entrenchments and coast batteries. They have changed the direction of fires and lighthouses constructed to protect vessels arriving from the offing, and have also reinforced the garrisons of the towns beyond the maximum of war.

## THE SEAT OF WAR.

Early on the morning of the 12th of January, General Engelhardt, with a corps of 2,000 men, crossed the Danube from Galatz and burnt two Turkish villages. Five battalions had embarked to cross the river and to support him. On the 13th, the Russians attacked Matschin, which is nearly opposite Braila, and at no great distance from the confluence of the Pruth and Danube. The attack was made on several points simultaneously, and when the last accounts left the combat was raging fiercely. The Russian division stationed at Giurgevo was also preparing for an attack on Rutschuk—another account says they had actually attacked it. It was said that other points were also menaced, and it is thought, with reason, that this nearly simultaneous attack of the Russians on the line of the Danube, evidently for the purpose of crossing it, is intended as the reply of the Czar to the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea. The despatches referred to state that the Turks were defending themselves with the usual obstinate bravery they display in their fortresses. Great numbers of troops march through Odessa on their way to Brailow, and a vast quantity of beams and spars has also been forwarded. General Luders is continually travelling backwards and forwards. At Reni, on the left bank of the Pruth, at its junction with the Danube, the Russians had made preparations for a speedy passage.

Letters from Krajova, dated the 14th of January, mention that since the 10th the Turks had not quitted Kalafat and the neighbouring villages, while the Russians have not made any movement since. The garrison of Krajova, which marched on the 7th for the Danube, had returned on the 10th, without having taken part in any of the combats. The whole corps of General Aurep was concentrated in Lesser Wallachia, and it was believed that Prince Gortschakoff had established his head quarters at Pojana, prior to a grand attack on Kalafat.

Omar Pacha was at Widdin, with Lord Dudley Stuart. The entrenchments there and at Kalafat were defended by 250 guns. At the latter place a high observatory has been erected from which every movement of the Russians can be watched. About 60,000 troops are there concentrated.

It is believed that Prince Gortschakoff is about to be recalled, and that General Osten-Sacken is to remain in Bessarabia, in order that General Luders, who is his junior, may be appointed Commander-in-Chief in the Principalities.

We hear nothing of further operations in Asia. It is stated that the snow is too deep for active operations, and that the Turkish army has so little coherence that it may not improbably disband.

In our last we mentioned that three Turkish steam vessels, which appeared off the Circassian coast, had successfully conveyed powder to the mountaineers. It was done in this fashion: Agents from Constantinople had previously warned the mountaineers, and on the firing of signal guns along the coast, a thousand horsemen dashed down between the Russian forts, and in a trice each man strapped on his bag of powder and disappeared among the mountains.

## THE SULTAN'S REPLY TO THE VOTE OF THE FOUR POWERS.

VARYING reports have been published as to the final reply of the Porte to the last collective note of the Four Powers. The document itself has now been published, and as it is probably the last result of a series of fruitless negotiation, we publish it entire:—

"His Majesty the Sultan has perused with attention the British Ambassador's note of Dec. 12, respecting the bases proposed for a treaty of peace, and identical with those of his colleagues, the representatives of France, Austria, and Prussia, sent in collectively on the same day, and it results therefrom that his Majesty the Emperor of Russia manifests pacific intentions.

"The Sublime Porte has waged war solely in its own defence—in defence of its sacred rights and sovereignty—and as there is nothing to affect them in this proposal, it has been deemed expedient to adopt it with a view to the restoration of peace—his Imperial Majesty, moreover, being actuated in this circumstance by the highest consideration for his august allies, by an ardent desire of conforming to their wishes, and by implicit faith in their councils.

"Accordingly, on resuming the negotiations, the first point to establish will be the evacuation of the Principalities within the shortest possible delay; and the second, the renewal of the treaties, to which the Sublime Porte assents, in deference to the advice of the Allied Powers, and in the undeviating spirit of moderation by which it has been guided throughout in these transactions.

"With regard to the religious privileges and immunities of the various non-musulman communions, subject to the Ottoman government, these have been accorded in ancient times by the illustrious ancestors of his Imperial Majesty, and reconfirmed by himself in virtue of a hatti-shérif recently emanated to that effect. These grants and franchises, moreover, the Sublime Porte has been ever anxious to maintain—and will maintain perpetually—as has been long since solemnly proclaimed to all Europe by the promulgation of the *Tanzimat*. Moreover, should any one of these communions possess advantages unenjoyed by the others, and these desire to participate therein—the Ottoman Government, animated by sentiments of justice and impartiality, will never refuse to dispense equal rights and equal privileges to all. Neither can there be the slightest objection to notify the sincerity and loyalty of these intentions to every Government in Europe, and to furnish each—and necessarily the Cabinet of St. Petersburg—with a copy of the aforesaid firman.

"The project of settlement, concerning the measures required to complete the decision relative the Holy Places, will be accepted definitively.

"Hence, the Sublime Porte is ready to conclude a treaty of peace, in the manner traced out by its august allies—and consents, accordingly to appoint a plenipotentiary, who, with a Russian plenipotentiary, will finally regulate this affair, and settle the terms of an armistice, in any neutral town at the choice of the Allied Powers—as soon as intelligence is received that the Court of St. Petersburg has acquiesced in these decisions.

"In consequence of the many and various relations existing between Turkey and the European states, the Sublime Porte considers itself in every respect entitled to be admitted as a member of the European federation, and conformably with this situation it will be requisite to confirm and complete the treaty of 1841, and this result. It awaits with entire confidence in the good offices and solicitude of the great powers.

"Forty days ought to suffice to make known the decision of the Russian cabinet, and the Sublime Porte solicits its august allies to direct their attention to that object.

"Finally, with a view of ensuring to all classes of his subjects the blessings of justice and security, his Majesty the Sultan is most anxious to see in full vigour the enactments of the *Tanzimat*—and to introduce into all the departments of State the requisite reforms and ameliorations—and to this end, has deigned to issue orders for considering and completing that most important object. This circumstance I feel most happy to announce, and it will afford, no doubt, the highest satisfaction to the friends and well-wishers of the Ottoman empire.

(Signed)

"MUSTAFA RESCHID.

"Réboullev, 30, 1270."

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Prince Woronzoff is now at St. Petersburg.

Private letters from Stockholm, dated the 10th, state that it will be very difficult, if not absolutely impossible, for Sweden to maintain a neutrality in case of war, in consequence of the extremely hostile feeling that pervades the entire nation against Russia.

Prince Georges Stirbey, hospodar of Wallachia, has arrived at Marseilles.

The *Presse* announces that English officers of all ranks pass through Paris daily on their way to the Danube and Asia.

The Emperor Nicholas promoted the "kapitan" who brought the news of the massacre of Sinope to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and kissed him on each cheek.

## PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

Unmistakeable symptoms of the approaching struggle are visible in various directions. Great activity is shown in levying the coast-volunteers. At a meeting of seafaring men at Plymouth, last week, Captain Sheringham, commander of the western division from Gosport to Weston-super-Mare, told them that we are on the eve of a very severe conflict, and it is the duty of every man to defend his own home and hearth. They would be drilled for twenty-eight days at the utmost; they would be paid ten shillings on entering, and one-and-sevenpence a-day on drill, with a guinea at the end. Every twenty-fifth man would become a petty officer; and when sick they would be taken to the Naval Hospital. Fifty men had already volunteered; should ten thousand, the whole required, not volunteer, England would look contemptible in the eyes of Russia, and the Admiralty would be compelled to go to Parliament and get power to ballot. They would never be taken more than one hundred leagues from shore; if an enemy came, they beat him back—if he did not come, they stay at home. Several men volunteered on the spot.

The east coast of Scotland is to be put into a state of defence, and a frigate is to be stationed in that neighbourhood for its protection. Captain Craigie has been

visiting the people in the fishing villages on the Firth of Forth, and has enrolled upwards of 250 men in the naval volunteers. His appeals to the fishermen of Aberdeenshire appear to have been very successful. At a recent meeting in the neighbourhood of that city he explained that he wanted 1,500 men, who would only be called out in case of imminent national danger or great emergency, and with this view would always be kept within 150 miles of the United Kingdom. George Brands, a seaman, then stood forward, and in a very enthusiastic address, backed Captain Craigie's appeal. He had "been out" in 1798, and he could assure the young men around him that their forefathers had acted nobly, and the "folk of Filtie" (fishermen of Foot Dee) would prove themselves worthy of being called their sons. (Cheers.)

The Victualling department of the Navy, in Ireland, have issued a circular calling for tenders to furnish a supply of beef and pork supplementary to the annual supply contracted for.

The impending war with Russia will at least (says the *Times*) have the effect of remodelling the *Navy List*. Officers meritorious, but past service, must now consent to leave the field to younger men, and to take the equivalents of active employment in pensions, honours, promotion, and more peaceful situations. Above all things, there must now be an end of regarding the claim of any officer for employment as valid, save his capacity for the public service in perilous times.

Twenty-two recruiting parties left the garrison at Woolwich, on Friday and Saturday last, and 17 additional recruiting parties left on Monday, making a total of 39 recruiting parties sent into the country on three successive week-days to enlist young men for that branch of Her Majesty's service.

An event of considerable significance occurred on Saturday morning on board the "Thetis," at Spithead. The crew of that vessel had been on a long cruise, and, according to the custom of the service, the time had arrived when they should have been paid off. When the ship arrived at Spithead, Rear-Admiral Richard Dundas—one of the Lords of the Admiralty—steamed up in the "Fire Queen," and passed to the quarter-deck of the "Thetis." All hands were piped up, and the Admiral, in a few brief but energetic words, informed the crew that, at the present moment, the country could not dispense with their services. "I have come down," said he, "by request of the Board of Admiralty, to make known to you that we are on the eve of a war, and that war with Russia." Nothing could be more clear or distinct than the phrase employed. The Admiral proceeded to inform the crew that the country had need of their services, and he had no doubt they would be freely and willingly given. All hands were to receive their wages, and have liberty for a run ashore for a few weeks; after which they were once more to come forward, and "act as British seamen have ever done in defence of their country."

## MR. HADFIELD AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

A very crowded meeting took place in the Town-hall, Sheffield, on Thursday morning, the object of which was to hear an address from Mr. Hadfield, one of the members for that borough. The Mayor presided. Mr. Hadfield gave a long account of the course he had pursued during the last session. He commenced by referring to the regret he had felt at the loss of the services of his able colleague (Mr. Roebuck), but expressed a hope that that gentleman would be able to resume his duties in the ensuing session. Mr. Hadfield proceeded to say that he had attended studiously to the business of the House on 155 of the 159 days on which it had sat for the despatch of business. The hon. gentleman then referred to the leading measures of the last session, and said he had acted the part of an independent member. He had no party prejudices to serve. The best measure that was proposed for the benefit of his country was the one for which he had uniformly voted. He had been in 74 minorities and 108 majorities, and he had voted as he thought was honest in the sight of his country. Referring to budget, the hon. member proceeded to say that on the Probate Bill he had presented petitions representing sixty millions of capital. He had also served on two important committees—that on the Norwich petition, and on the Registration Assurance Bill. He had not deserted the Government on any good cause, but there were nine occasions on which he voted with the majority against the Government, because he thought them wrong. Mr. Hadfield next adverted to the exertions he had used to compel the Government to take off the Advertisement-duty, and to his desire to abolish the Ecclesiastical Courts, instancing the abuses which prevailed in them. Having touched upon these and various other topics of the session, some questions were put to the hon. member, to which he gave answers. A resolution, approving of the Parliamentary conduct of Mr. Hadfield was then unanimously carried, for which he returned thanks.

The satisfactory exposition given by Mr. Hadfield on Thursday, of his conduct during the session, cannot, says the *Sheffield Independent*, be passed over without a remark. Mr. Hadfield has been one of the most laborious members of the House. Not only has his attendance in his place been exemplary, but in prompt and pains-taking attention to all who have communicated with him, he has shown how much may be accomplished by a well-trained man of business. Mr. Hadfield has carried into Parliament the habits that made him so eminently successful in his profession; and, having been accustomed to do his best for his clients, on a more limited scale, he now acts on similar principles, and with the same care for the larger body of clients who claim his services. We trust that the extraordinary vigour which enables him to act up to his own high notions of his duty may long enable him to pursue his useful career.



## SIR E. BULWER LYTTON IN EDINBURGH.

This celebrated writer having some time since been elected president of the associated societies of the University of Edinburgh, his inauguration (without official ceremony) took place on Wednesday evening. The office is a new one, and was declined by Mr. Disraeli; and the object of the students in its creation was simply to enjoy an annual address by the distinguished gentleman who may be induced to accept the honour. The installation was celebrated without the University, in one of the public halls of the town, which was decorated by one or two specimens of the Scottish lion, the thistle, and other symbols of nationality. Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton (who was introduced to the assemblage by the Lord Advocate), passed a high eulogy upon the eminent men who filled the chairs in the University of the Scottish capital, and then proceeded to offer some remarks upon those fundamental requisites essential to excellence in study. He next proceeded to impress upon his auditory the importance of classical studies, passing in eloquent review the chief characteristics of Greek and Roman literature. He concluded in these terms:—

"It would ill become me to enter into the special grounds of debate now at issue; but permit me to remind you that, while pressing with your accustomed spirit for whatever you may deem to be equal rights, you would be untrue to your own fame if you did not feel that the true majesty of Scotland needs neither the pomp of courts nor the blazonry of heralds. What though Holyrood be desolate? what though no king holds revel in its halls?—the empire of Scotland has but extended its range, and blended with England, under the daughter of your ancient kings, peoples the Australian wastes that lay beyond the grasp of Columbus, and rules over the Indian realm that eluded the grasp of Alexander! (Loud applause.) That empire does not suffice for you. It may decay; it may perish. More grand is the domain you have won over human thought, and identified with the eternal progress of intellect and freedom. (Renewed applause.) From the charter of that domain no ceremonial can displace the impress of your zeal. In the van of that progress no blazon can flaunt before that old lion of Scotland, (pointing to the flag suspended opposite.) (Great cheering.) This is the empire that you will adorn in peace; this is the empire that, if need be, you will defend in war. It is not here that I would provoke one difference in political opinion; but surely you, the sons of Scotland, who hold both fame and power upon the same tenure as that which secured civilization from lawless force, surely you are not the men who could contemplate, with folded arms, the return of the dark ages, and quietly render up the haven that commands Asia on the one side and threatens Europe on the other, to the barbaric ambition of some Alaric of the north. (Loud applause.) But, whether in reluctant war or happier peace, and in your various callings, continue to maintain for Scotland her sublime alliance with every power of mind that can defend or instruct, soothe or exalt humanity."

Our table (says the *Athenæum*) groans under the weight and variety of literary treasures daily pouring in. Mr. Murray announces a new series of reprints to be called "The British Classics." Among the more important volumes now announced as in course of preparation, are:—"Milton's *Gibbon*," to be re-edited by Dr. William Smith;—Mr. Croker's long-expected edition of "The Writings of Pope,"—"Scott's Works of Dryden and Swift," both re-edited,—an edition of "Addison," by the Rev. W. Elwin,—and Johnson's "Lives of the British Poets," to be edited by Mr. Peter Cunningham. In the same publisher's general list of forthcoming books we notice Dr. Waagen's "Treasures of Art in Great Britain,"—Dr. Hooker's "Himalayan Journals,"—and Sir R. Murchison's "Siluria." Messrs. Longman have in the press, Mr. Erskine's "History of India under the House of Timur." New works of fiction are announced by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett (the successors to Mr. Colburn) are preparing for publication during the present season, from the pens of Miss Mitford, Mrs. Gore, Mrs. Trollope, Miss Pardoe, the author of "Emilia Wyndham," and the author of "Margaret Maitland."—Messrs. Hall, Virtue & Co., are preparing "The Chronicles of Merrie England," by the author of "Mary Powell,"—"Evenings in my Tent," by the Rev. N. Davis,—and a book for social reading by Miss Strickland with the well-worn title "Rome: Regal and Republican."—Mr. Bentley announces as in the press—Guizot's "History of Oliver Cromwell and the English Commonwealth,"—Col. Markham's "Shooting Scenes in the Himalayas, Chinese Tartary, &c."—Mr. Turnerelli's "Russia on the Borders of Asia,"—the "Memoirs and correspondence of Henry St. George Tucker,"—and Mr. Waldo Emerson's "English Notes."—From the press of the Messrs. Hope and Co. we are to expect Mr. Fowler's "History of the Ottoman Empire,"—Messrs. Parker are about to publish "A Year with the Turks," by Mr. Harrington Smyth,—"The Poetical Remains" of Mackworth Praed,—"Our Cruise in the Undine,"—Admiral Smyth's "The Mediterranean: a Memoir,"—"Poems," by Frederick Tennyson,—Mr. Stirling's "Don John of Austria,"—and Mr. Goolley's "Claudius, Ptolemy and the Nile."

## Postscript.

## THE WAR.

A telegraphic despatch from Berlin, dated Monday, says, the Czar has instructed his ambassadors to demand whether, by the entry of the combined fleets into the Black Sea, it is intended to take part with Turkey, or simply to observe a strict neutrality; in the former case, they are to demand their passports. Some expectations are indulged in there of the probability of an amicable settlement between Russia and the Porte. The *New Prussian Gazette*, (a Russian organ) also has the following:—The Czar considers that the explanations given by France and England, with the announcement that their fleets enter the Black Sea, give a character of neutrality to the position taken up by those Powers.

But as a preliminary condition of all negotiations he requires that this neutrality shall be directly declared in a formal document. The delay on the part of Russia to reply to the propositions of the Powers was interpreted yesterday at the Paris Bourse in a sense favourable to peace. All stocks rose in consequence. On the other hand, intelligence from St. Petersburg does not lead to the hope that the Czar will give way. It is stated that when the Emperor heard of the negotiations going on for an arrangement, and of the nature of the propositions that would be made to him, before they were officially presented, he determined to reject them, and issued his orders accordingly to the generals of the army; that he communicated with Prince Menschikoff, and asked about his fleet, and whether it was in a state to face the combined French and English squadrons. The Prince's reply was—"Yes; we can conquer, or fight and die to the last man."

A private letter from St. Petersburg gives the following anecdote:—There happened to be a grand reception at the Court on the day that M. de Reizet attended for the purpose of presenting the declaration of France relative to the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea. After the ceremony was over, the Emperor Nicholas, addressing some members of the diplomatic corps who were near him, said—"Gentlemen, I have done all I could to maintain peace. I am driven into war. Russia never refuses battle when offered to her; she may mourn the loss of a fleet, but she will never have to mourn the loss of her honour." Another anecdote is given with confidence by the *Times* Vienna Correspondent:—"The demand was made at St. Petersburg whether the Emperor Nicholas would meet the Emperor of Austria at Warsaw. The reply received was, that his Majesty, the Emperor of Russia, intended to go to the seat of war! The sarcasm contained in this answer has put the military party in an excessively ill-humour with Russia."

The answer given by the Russian Admiral to the Captain of the Retribution, who conveyed the message from the English and French Admirals to Sebastopol, is said to have been very laconic—namely, that he had no orders to receive from a French or English Admiral, and that he should leave Sebastopol, or remain in it, according to the orders he received from the Emperor, or his immediate superiors.

Accounts from Sebastopol of the 10th, received through Bucharest, state that all the Russian ships are kept close in port. Small steamers keep the Russian Admiral well informed of the movements of the French and English fleets.

The war steamer *Banshee* arrived at Lisbon on the 17th with despatches for the British Admiral, and immediately afterwards the British squadron was under orders for sea. The destination of Admiral Corry's squadron was unknown, but most likely it would return home.

There is nothing new from the Danube. The reported capture of Silistria (a strong fortress) by the Russians, is doubtful on all sides; probably some place in the locality had been taken. The Russians were very active along the whole line of the Danube. The Turks are preparing for the enemy. A letter, dated Sophia, Jan. 12, states that on the 10th several thousand men of the garrison there were marched down towards Widdin.

Accounts from Erzerome, dated Dec. 24, state that matters are proceeding more favourable in Asia. Kars is the head-quarters, where there are twenty battalions of regulars. Other troops are quartered in Ardahan, Karushet, and Kaisman. General Guyon is most zealous in his efforts to improve the condition of the troops, to encourage them, and raise them up from that demoralisation into which they had fallen, after the defeats of Achalzich and Gumri.

A Berlin letter of the 19th states that the Prussian Cabinet had received from Russia, a protest against the establishment of a Prussian port in the North Sea.

## REFORM BANQUET AT MANCHESTER.

The meeting of the supporters of the "Manchester School" of politicians came off yesterday evening, at Manchester, when about 300 persons assembled in the large room of the Albion Hotel. Among those on the platform were Mr. Cobden, M.P., The Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P., Mr. John Bright, M.P., Mr. Lawrence Heyworth, M.P., Mr. John Cheetham, M.P., Mr. Frank Crossley, M.P., Mr. George Haddfield, M.P., Mr. James Kershaw, M.P., Mr. E. Miall, M.P., Mr. W. Brown, M.P., &c. The meeting was announced for 6 o'clock, but a preliminary coffee in an adjoining room at which tea, coffee, and cakes were distributed to the company. The meeting is fully reported by this

morning's papers to the extent of nearly six columns, and was received by special engine.

The Chairman (George Wilson, Esq.) made a short speech on the reform question, abounding in statistics, in the course of which he said that Lancashire had a right to fifty instead of twenty-six members, and contended that every county should have representatives in proportion to its numbers and property.

The Right Hon. Milner Gibson urged that the prospect of war was one of the strongest arguments in favour of reform. If, it were true that they had increased taxation "looming in the distance," it behoves them to lose no time in reforming their representative system, and have a more effective control over taxation and expenditure. (Applause) Let them have a fair distribution of political power. From tables which had been drawn by Mr. Edwards, it appeared that 330 members of the House of Commons—a majority of the whole assembly—might be returned by 168,000 electors. More than that, it was the majority of those 168,000 electors who might return them, so that, in point of fact, the 800,000 electors who formed the whole of the constituent body of the united kingdom might be overruled by a small minority of their own body, not exceeding 100,000. (Applause.) The prospect of war arose entirely from the chronic anarchy of Turkey. What he wished, was that those who had the power to influence affairs within the dominions of the Sultan, should aim at securing equal civil rights to the Christians with the Turks; the fullest religious equality to all the Christians, resident within the dominions of the Sultan. (Applause.) "War, and no reform," that would be the cry of conservatism; a nice doctrine, no doubt, to those who wished to maintain that state of things to the same extent which existed during the old French war. (Hear, hear.) He called upon the meeting to support a full representation of the people, so that no wars might be carried on that had not the deliberate and continued support of the great body of the people. (Cheers.)

Mr. Cobden, with reference to the Reform question, said that what they wanted was such a re-distribution of political powers as that votes should follow property and persons. "I am," he said, "for the extension of the franchise, but I say at the present moment I don't wish to have the franchise extended to everybody. I consider that is a progressive question, and if you extended the franchise to-morrow to 1,000,000 people—and I should be glad to see such an extension to-morrow—we should still live in hope that it might soon after be extended to another million or two. It is but a question of time. I am satisfied that if the Government do not intend to enlarge the electoral pale, and to extend the electoral privileges, their scheme will be received, as it ought to be, with very great disaffection by the great body of the people. (Cheers.) He was still in favour of triennial Parliaments, and especially the ballot. It required almost a separate agitation to carry the latter. The ballot is resisted, and why? Because it is a pure and simple question, admitting of no "trans-action," as the Spanish call it. The ballot is a question which cannot be compromised or frittered away. It is "Aye" or "No" to what I regard as a most important and vital change. Mr. Cobden then addressed himself to the Eastern question. He referred to his early connection with that subject, and maintained that Turkey is now as it was in 1835—a decaying country. But our determination to prevent the extension of Russian territory was a distinct question from the maintenance of Mohammedanism as a permanent rule in Europe. There was no antipathy on the part of the Russian people to England, but he believed they wished to extend their relations with us. He thought the Czar in the present case, unjust, aggressive, and insolent, but he wanted to know the principle on which we interfered. If we are to act as the policemen of Europe, are we prepared to carry it out in every case, as in Italy. As a question of policy he did not think we should be worse off if the Russians were at Constantinople; for that power was not ante-commercial. He contended that there was no treaty calling upon us to preserve the integrity of the Ottoman empire, that the Christians of Turkey were more favourable to Russian than to Turkish rule, and that we were going to war without any intelligent object in view. England was indeed bound and committed to France and must fulfil with honour and integrity that to which she was pledged. (Cheers.) He was more afraid that he could say, that this sort of alliance may, after all, be found to be a rather hasty and rather unwise approximation of these two countries, whose traditions, he was afraid, were not much in unison with their present position in the Black Sea. He highly eulogised Lord Aberdeen, for his ceaseless efforts to preserve peace, dwelt upon the enormous burdens this country would have to endure in case of European war (and it could scarcely be anything else), and urged that they should rather have a heavy income-tax than again consent to fetter industry. But he would not believe that war was inevitable, till he read the bulletin of the first battle. He could scarcely believe they were capable of such folly—of such wickedness, he would say—as going to war. For had we no works at home which would be checked if they begin to talk of war? (Hear, hear.) Even now the talk of war distracts men's minds till they could not pay attention to the necessary domestic reform so much called for by the interests of the country. He concluded by reading an extract from a speech by the Rev. Dr. Guthrie, to which he responded Amen with all his heart, and sat down amidst loud cheers.

Mr. Bright, M.P., Mr. Cheetham, M.P., Mr. H. Ashworth, and Mr. Whitehouse, the representative of the Ballot Secretary, subsequently addressed the meeting.

CORN EXCHANGE. MARK-LANE, Jan. 26.

We have but little business doing on our Market to-day prices without variation.



# ABRIDGEMENT OF THE CENSUS RETURNS ON RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

THE SUPPLEMENT of the NONCONFORMIST of January 4th, 1854, containing a carefully-prepared abridgement of the Official Report and Tables on "Religious Worship," describing the Principal Denominations, and stating the provision for public worship, attendance, destitution, &c., may now be obtained, price 3d.; by post, 4d.

W. FREEMAN, Publisher, 69 Fleet Street.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Recusationis," next week.

We must defer replying to other communications till our next.

The following subscriptions are hereby thankfully acknowledged on behalf of Martin and Swale, the oppressed overseers of Boroughbridge, by Geo. C. Catterall.

J. Sturge, Esq., Birmingham, £2.

T. S. Watkinson, Esq., York, £1.

We beg to announce that it is our intention, during the present year, to give, once in about every Six Weeks, a LITERARY SUPPLEMENT of Eight Pages, containing Reviews of the most Valuable Publications of the day.

# The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1854.

## SUMMARY.

"WE are on the eve of a war—and that war with Russia." Such was the plain announcement made by Admiral Richard Dundas, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, in informing the crew of the "Thetis" that their services could not, for the present, be dispensed with. Jack Tar can scarcely be expected to understand sentiments conveyed in qualified phrases; and Admiral Dundas may, therefore, have felt it necessary to express himself in terms more decided than politic. But, whether or not the expression be thought premature as coming from a member of the Government, it interprets the universal impression in unofficial quarters. The fluctuation in the funds (although less violent than might reasonably be expected at such a momentous crisis)—the activity of our dockyards—the strenuous exertions put forth to enlist naval volunteers, and to recruit our artillery force—the unceasing preparations making in France—and, lastly, the sudden departure of the English fleet from the Tagus on the arrival of a message from England, are unmistakable indications that "we are on the eve of war."

Yet the *Times* indulges in a faint hope that the Czar may still recede from his defiant attitude. At the most critical moment, he exhibits signs of vacillation. His response to the entrance of the combined fleets into the Euxine, is not a declaration of war but a question. Baron Brunow is instructed to ask the British Government, whether that squadron is to take part with Turkey, or observe a strict neutrality. Superfluous enquiry! As it is notorious that the Russian Ambassadors both in Paris and in London had made preparations for their instant departure, but have not yet demanded their passports, it is evident that the Emperor is temporising, with a view to gain more time, and learn the result of the combined advance of his armies across the Danube, or that at the eleventh hour, he shrinks from the perils of his position. A few days, however, will bring his final decision. There is yet a further breathing time, though no chance for procrastination. Probably, ere this, the formal reply of the Emperor to the Vienna Protocol is on its way to the Western Powers. Her Majesty will most likely be able to inform the Legislature next week, whether we are at peace or war with Russia.

The hesitation of the Czar appears all the more remarkable when we consider his altered position in relation to France and England. The fleets of the two Western Powers have orders "to protect Turkish vessels and Turkish territory in all parts of the Black Sea." In case of their falling in with

a Russian squadron, they are to prevent the enemy from making any fresh attack on Turkey, and to send him back to Sebastopol—force being used in case of resistance. Further, it appears that a Turkish convoy, with troops and ammunition, has sailed for Batoum under the protection of the combined squadrons. Such a policy as this, pursued under the name of "armed mediation," is almost equivalent to actual hostilities. Yet the Czar has so far overlooked the degrading position in which he is thus placed, as to respond to it, not by a declaration of war, but by a demand for further explanations. He declines to interpret the acts of the Allied Powers, and leaves them to explain!

"Pipe down!" said the admiral at the conclusion of his harangue; and "all hands" accordingly went below, to be "paid down," instead of being "paid off,"—held to the service *volens volens*, after a "few weeks' run," on their return from a three years' cruise. The first personal hardship this inflicted by a state of war, and one which sets men thinking,—not the less for the good temper with which the blue jackets submit—whether something more than has yet been done to soften the severities of naval service may not now be done. The eagerness with which the coast population of our island are sure to respond to a demand upon their courage and energy, is a reason for not holding too tightly to their bond any already in our power.

Another recent naval spectacle is suggestive in another direction. The new screw steam-ship, "Himalaya," launched the other day, is the largest in the world,—ninety-two feet longer than the "Duke of Wellington,"—and furnished with engines of 700 horse power. The multiplication of these splendid agencies of pacific intercourse, is also the multiplication of our power in war; for besides their unrivalled swiftness as transports, they could be easily fitted with guns. A disaster to the American war-steamer, "San Francisco," has disclosed the poverty of the United States Government in this particular; but has also brought to mind the amazing wealth of the country. Sixty-six steamers, averaging 1,600 tons each, have been built at New York within the past year, and the owners of the "Himalaya" are the possessors of a steam squadron which a sovereign might envy. Either of the two nations could equip an ocean fleet freighted with resistless thunders, before any other power could strike a serious blow by sea or land.

Would that a tithe of the energy with which we prepare for war, inspired our efforts to prevent the natural calamities incident alike to peace or war! It is scarcely possible that were the prevision and completeness with which our naval marine is served bestowed on the mercantile, such terrible disasters as those frequent in the Irish Channel could occur. The Australian emigrant ship which drifted for hours in the sight of her vast living freight upon the rocks of Lambay, on Saturday, could not perhaps have been saved from striking by any appliance of science, skill, or care; but it is incredible that, with adequate means of escape, some 400 out of 576 human beings would have immediately perished. With no more detailed information than that the survivors made their way in a fishing boat from the stranded vessel to the shore, we are scarcely premature in surmising that another hecatomb of human victims has been made to the sordid or slovenly management of shipmasters.

There have been two political meetings of importance during the week. The people of Sheffield—after auditing and approving their active representative's account of his stewardship during the past year—entertained at dinner a great number of Liberal M.P.'s. The chief speakers on this occasion (Thursday last) were Mr. Cobden, Lord Goderich, and Mr. Bright. The hon. members for the West Riding and for Manchester, addressed themselves, with characteristic point and force, to the restriction and inequality of the representation, and especially to the necessity of protection for the voter. Lord Goderich evoked hearty applause and eulogy by his bravely outspoken declarations for immediate and extensive reform. The *Times* takes occasion, from this indication of the favour into which the noble member for Huddersfield is growing, to sneer at the Radical's love of a lord. The sarcasm would be more just if it were pointed at that sensitiveness to social influence which not seldom restrains the profession of opinion, and thus exposes men born of the people to be outstripped in their advocacy of popular rights by men, of not stronger convictions or warmer sympathies.—Last night, there was held at Manchester a gathering of representatives and electoral leaders. From the hurried and imperfect reports in this morning's newspapers, we gather that the Eastern question obtained an unfortunate prominence over the Reform question, and that the leading speakers did not insist,—as we think they should have done,—upon the right relation of the two questions. Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Bright, appear to have taken much the same

course of remark, and that not visibly differing from previous utterance.

The week's proceedings in the London Corporation Commission, illustrate the moral we have pointed from the Albert allegations. The secrecy of the City authorities, it now appears, has been equally unjust to themselves and to the public. It comes out, bit by bit, that the (nearly) two millions and a half which the Chamberlain innocently acknowledges to have disbursed during his first year of office, is really applied in great part for the general benefit—that London is well drained and well watched, and owes at least one excellent educational institution to its civic rulers; that every over-paid office is not an absolute sinecure, and that elections do not cost quite so much as is commonly believed. But when the most has been made of these admissions, there remains only the more incontestable necessity for administrative reform and municipal extension.

We have this week an additional commendation of the work so often urged in these columns—that of the improvement of dwellings. Mr. B. Denison publishes the fact that the establishments originated by him in Leeds have yielded, in the third year of their existence—notwithstanding an exceptional drawback, and a liberal management—a return of five-and-a-half per cent. Why not put out a few hundred thousands of the City monies at interest such as that?

Spain presents once more the spectacle of a monarchy intent on its own destruction, and of a people ill prepared for the choice between anarchy and military despotism. The latter is not the less possible that five generals, in addition to those already in exile or foreign employ, have just been ordered to distant stations. As they were the leaders of the Parliamentary opposition, their dismissal is regarded as a monitory *coup d'état*.

We learn from India, that Lord Dalhousie has gone to Burmah—that preparations are making or war in Persia, but that it is hoped the diplomatist has anticipated the soldier—and that a second meeting of Punjab chiefs further discourages the horrid practice of infanticide.

American intelligence includes, among items of disasters by fire and storm, the assurance that diplomatic difficulties respecting Nicaragua and our Mosquito protectorate, are disappearing before the practical and pacific disposition of both parties. Would that the same potent solvent were applied to all and worse difficulties!

## WHAT SAYS THE COUNTRY?

It will prove a singular coincidence, not, we fear, at all unlikely to happen, should the coming Parliamentary Session, set apart by public intention for the elaboration of a new Reform Bill, open with an announcement that the nation is already plunged in a state of war. The altered relation in which we shall find ourselves standing to foreign powers, and the necessity which it will impose upon us to give immediate attention to external affairs, will, no doubt, be pleaded by those who dislike organic improvement, as a sufficient reason for abandoning, at least until the re-establishment of peace, all attempts to modify our existing representative system—and many a real and hearty friend to popular progress may see in the outbreak of war, an insurmountable obstacle to an immediate entertainment of the Reform question. We have given our reasons for having arrived at just the opposite conclusion. A declaration of war between this country and Russia ought, in our judgment, to have the effect of hastening through both Houses, a comprehensive and well-considered measure for putting the House of Commons into closer harmony with the people—for it is only by an identity of feeling and will, between the Government, the Legislature, and the public, that we can reasonably expect to secure that enthusiasm and strength which active conflict with a formidable adversary will render quite imperative. Unless we misinterpret the signs of the times, this is also the general conviction—and past, and passing events appear to us to address the Ministry in tones of earnest exhortation, urging them to persevere in their intended domestic policy, whatever may be the issue of their efforts to maintain unbroken the peace of Europe.

For several weeks past, there seems to have been a settled belief, on the part of the public, that a conflict between the maritime powers and Russia is inevitable, and for several weeks past, we fear we must add, it has been still more apparent that the British public is far more eager for the fray than the British Government. And yet, nowhere, so far as our observation extends, has there been any manifest disposition to shelve the question of Reform, even for another session. The press has occasionally discussed it as if no war were impending. The Ministry have evinced no visible inclination to shirk it. And, if we may draw an inference from the circumstances attendant upon the recent Reform banquet at Sheffield, and upon the soirée held last night at Manchester, we should say that the public do not anticipate the suspension of all effort for internal improvement, in consequence of a foreseen derangement of our external relations.



We hold ourselves fully warranted, therefore, in continuing to discuss the question as one of imminent interest and importance, whichever way diplomacy may chance to take—for, severe as may be the sacrifice to which the people will have to submit, in case of actual hostilities, we discern no good reason for their surrendering the near prospect they have had of a purer representation.

The Sheffield banquet brought out two things very distinctly—first, the quiet but unmistakeable expectation with which a Reform bill is awaited—and, secondly, the general disposition to accept any measure which shall bear upon the face of it evident marks of sincerity.

To those who imagine that the people of England do not want further Parliamentary Reform, the Sheffield banquet may serve as an useful warning. They might gather, if they are not wholly destitute of political sagacity, that they have taken a wrong gauge of public opinion—that their heated wishes have given back to them a distorted reflection of facts—and that whilst they flattered themselves they were listening to the voice of the people, they were only catching the echo of their own clamorous desires. Plainly, they have been unskilled in the art of reading the popular mind. They mistook silent confidence for heedlessness—and the settled determination which anticipates no denial, for apathy. They forgot how deep an impression had been made by the disclosures dragged to light by the Election Committees of last session. They do not seem to have felt, what every one but themselves instinctively acknowledged, that the question had got beyond the necessities of outdoor agitation. If there had been any doubt in the public mind as to the course which Government would take—if there had been any well-founded suspicion that simple exposure of Election abominations *could* be followed by a serious intention to tolerate them—if, in short, irrespectively altogether of party distinctions, there had not been a general conviction that the nuisance of corruption pleaded strongly enough with all decently disposed men for its own immediate removal, without the necessity of active popular interference—the country would have been long ago agitated from Land's End to John o'Groat's. If the enemies of Reform have overlooked this, they may now rectify their false impressions. Sheffield and Manchester, it is true, are not Great Britain—nor is the whistle of a locomotive the engine itself. But the shrill whistle of the engine may give warning that her steam is up, and serve as a sufficient hint to obstructives to get off the line—and the voice of Sheffield and Manchester, decisively uttered at the present juncture, may be fairly taken to indicate the thought with which the public mind is filled, and may admonish political triflers that their wisest step will be aside, lest the movement in its onward rush overtake and crush them.

But if the people are intent upon Reform, it is clear that the mood in which they are at present disposed to pursue it is no unreasonable one. They are not demanding all that they may think desirable. There is no squabble amongst them for pet projects. They insist upon no cut and dried theories. They thrust no definite number of "points" into the sides of oligarchy. The tone of the Sheffield meeting, firm as it was, was also distinguished by moderation and forbearance. It is anticipated that Ministers will act, if at all, *bona fide*. It is taken for granted that nomination boroughs will be quashed, and that populous towns, now inadequately or wholly unrepresented, will be enfranchised. No one appears to doubt that county constituencies will be expanded by a £10 household constituency; and men with Conservative leanings are forward to allow, that a Reform Bill which does not secure a large infusion of working-class votes, will be comparatively worthless. If, with broad results of this kind, the country could obtain secret voting, the measure which conferred them, however deficient in some other respects, would go far to gain the unanimous acceptance of the progressive party; or, in other words, of nine-tenths of the public. There cannot now be alleged against the Reformers the charge of divided ranks, and mutually discordant sections. No important body is heard to declare "unless we get this and that, we will take nothing." Class animosities do not now display themselves in this direction. And hence, we believe ourselves justified in assuming that the great majority of the people will be satisfied for some years to come with a substantial instalment of what they regard as due to them.

Other inferences of some importance, we think, might be correctly deduced from the meetings to which we have referred. We will not now mention them, because we are anxious to fix attention upon those which have called forth the preceding observations. If the Reform Bill of the Government shall appear to have been framed in the frank recognition of these two characteristics of existing public feeling, we question not that its proposal will suffice to rally round ministers the strength of the country, and to lay a firm foundation for improved government hereafter.

#### THE LINE OF DEFENCE AND ATTACK.

It is not till after nearly six months of inactivity, or of unimportant operations, that the war on the Danube commences in earnest. The battles of Oltenitza and Kalafat—although hard fought, and, therefore, of much value—had none of the features or results of a general engagement. The former appears to have astonished, and for a moment confounded, the Russian commanders, by its display of the numbers and resolution of the force sent to repel or dislodge them. The other seems to have checked a movement in advance of the reinforced Russian army, intended for nothing less than the recovery of the only remaining Ottoman post on the right bank of the Danube. It is now reported, however, that the former are advancing upon the river in three columns, intending to force a passage, and dispute the possession of Bulgaria with the great Turkish army.

The main body of that army is encamped in a triangle, of which Schumla is the apex, Rutschuk and Silistria the corners. But, in fact, "Bulgaria is now one vast camp, and an unbroken cordon of posts extends from Widdin to Sulina" (the mouth of the Danube). It is at least 200 miles distant between the points named. On both sides of that line watch and ward is kept by day and night. At no hour can a boat pass up or down the Danube in safety from the shots of the Cossacks on the one bank, or their Mahometan equivalents on the other. Both parties appear to have committed this frontier duty to their more irregular forces,—and thus, while the Tartar horse and soldier bivouac on the Wallachian marshes, groups of Albanians, equally rude and picturesque with their opposite watchers, occupy wooden fortresses, built on piles, in the sedge margin of Bulgaria. Between the two, scarcely the most dexterous boatman would escape unchallenged; the voyager, therefore, chooses his side of the stream according to the colour of his passport. But these sentry-groups are not the only inhabitants of either bank. Villages, Wallachian and Bulgarian, whose inhabitants have not taken refuge in the walled cities, may yet be found. A special correspondent of the *Times* confirms, from his observation of those villages, the report of other members of his adventurous fraternity. On the Bulgarian side, he found the people well-fed and well-dressed, and their houses better furnished than those of the Wallachian peasantry. Among the Greek subjects of Turkey, he found no sympathy with, or hope from, Russia: they acknowledged a beneficent change in Ottoman administration, and deplored the destruction of their resources by war. This state of feeling, the practices of the invaders must foment. The extirpation, by Cossacks, of a village whose inhabitants had resisted the spoliation of their stores, is among the incidents reported by the correspondent of a Vienna journal.

The alleged passage of the Danube by two thousand Russians near Galatz, indicates the adoption of tactics at once most natural to the assailants, and most harassing to their opponents—feigned attack at one or more points, to divert attention from the point at which it is really intended to attempt a passage for a considerable body. With the same object is the attack on Kalafat—news of which is anxiously anticipated. The Turks have garrisoned that place with some seventeen thousand men, drawn around it a breast-work of six thousand pieces, and mounted at short intervals a heavy battery. From a lofty tower, they watch the movements of the enemy, whose advanced guard was, at the last intelligence, within two hours' march of their own out-posts—which are about the same distance from Kalafat. It is menaced by a force of thirty thousand, including Cossacks. Such a force the Turks are confident of repelling, as they are less unevenly matched than at Oltenitza. There is a difference of opinion as to the strategic value of the position, as it is not opposite to, but a mile above Widdin, and is cut off from the main body of the army, and from the direct line of advance. However that may be, it is certain that it would be desperately defended against any number of assailants; and, if it becomes the object of more than a feigned attack, a bloody chapter will be added to the terrible history of hand-to-hand encounters.

#### SECRET DIPLOMACY AND ROYAL REPUTATIONS.

A few days more will solve the mystery which surrounds the alleged court intrigue for influencing our foreign policy, and with which the name of the Prince Consort has been so painfully associated. As will be seen from our news columns, the charges against him have been put into a specific shape, although some of them appear sufficiently improbable, yet the tenor of Prince Albert's reply to Mr. Mudock, of Dublin, and the damaging defence of his journalistic supporters, who show more ingenuity in inventing extravagant accusations, which no one else has thought of, than in demolishing those which have been preferred, strengthens the conclusion that there must be a substratum of truth in the allegations. But trustworthy evidence is

still wanting, and the bewildered public have, in vain, sought for authoritative information to guide their judgment; they have, therefore, become the prey of surmises and probabilities. They are at a loss to understand, why, in a crisis of momentous consequence to them, the foreign policy, of their rulers should be shrouded in darkness, when absolute sovereigns like the Emperors of France and Russia condescend to enlighten their subjects. Hence it is that, stimulated by party journalism, they not unreasonably yield to the suspicion that this mystery must cover some sinister purposes, and that national interests are being sacrificed to dynastic ends.

This charge is no new one, and we are at a loss to understand why Prince Albert should be singled out for that opprobrium which attaches to all the abettors of our present foreign policy. The system has been in operation from time immemorial. Our domestic institutions have been reformed, but our foreign policy remains intact. Its aim ever has been and is, to support continental thrones and dynasties, rather than to protect English subjects and interests, and in entire harmony with this object, peers, flunkies, and intriguers are its instruments; mystery and finesse its agency. Our diplomatic system will not bear daylight, and our statesmen do their utmost to prevent investigation. We can easily believe that one of Lord Palmerston's strongest objections to Parliamentary Reform, is the necessity that would arise for harmonizing our foreign with our domestic policy.

Instead of directing useless indignation against the supposed delinquencies of royal personages, it would be much more to the purpose to demand that the veil of mystery, which conceals our relations with foreign courts, should be removed. We want a frank and straight-forward English policy, such as needs diplomatic arts to recommend. We may reasonably demand, before discussion is too late, information about vital questions of foreign policy. To require a bill in Parliament for effecting every trivial local improvement, and yet to leave our government, in respect to our foreign relations, virtually irresponsible for one-half of the year, and uncommunicative for the other is an absurd anomaly. For six months, while the nation may have been on the eve of a protracted war, we have been utterly in the dark as to the policy of our Foreign Office. The result is injurious in every way. The nation is bewildered, the government damaged, perhaps unjustly, in public esteem; royalty brought into contempt, and, it may be, the Czar has been prevented from ascertaining the real determination of the English people. In endeavouring to put an end to the practice of secret diplomacy, and withholding information on foreign questions, the friends of peace may judiciously cooperate with what may be described as the ultra-English party. Ambassadors, like Lord Westmoreland and Sir Hamilton Seymour, are worse than useless. We want diplomatic agents, who will think more of upholding British honour and protecting British subjects, than indulging their artistic taste, dining at the tables of the great, and intriguing in the ante-chambers of royalty. It is necessary, in order that we may know our responsibilities, that all treaties binding us to support tottering dynasties may be overhauled. Still more is it desirable that the nation should be satisfied that her statesmen do not, under cover of secret diplomacy, throw the weight of the English name into the scale against struggling nationalities. If we are to have war, we trust it may be the means of sweeping away, once for all, this relic of a former age, and basing our foreign policy upon simple and intelligible principles. We are sure it will be one of the surest guarantees against future embroilment.

#### DEPUTATION TO THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

It is announced that a deputation from the Society of Friends, consisting of Mr. Henry Pease, of Darlington; Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham; and a gentleman from Bristol has just left England for St. Petersburg, with the object of endeavouring to induce the Czar to come to terms with Turkey. Such an attempt will, of course, provoke only the ridicule of that unfortunately numerous class, who set down enthusiasm in any cause as fanaticism, and who dread being in a minority. But it is, after all, men of faith, and self-sacrifice, like Mr. Pease, and Mr. Sturge, who are the pioneers of improvement. All men whose hearts beat warm with philanthropy, will admire their heroism, and if doubting their wisdom, wish them success. It may be that, before their arrival at St. Petersburg, war will have been declared, or, at least, they will be stopped at the frontier. But their peaceful mission can injure no one, it may perchance result in good. Our Quaker friends have, ere this, successfully pleaded the cause of humanity before crowned heads, when diplomacy has been unsuccessful. Perhaps the simple truthfulness of Joseph Sturge may produce more impression than the well-reasoned despatches of Lord Clarendon, or the entreaties of Sir Hamilton Seymour.



### THE WEST INDIAN COLONIES.

#### BARBADOES.

This is a remarkable island. Little more than a quarter of a century back, it was uninhabited. It is now more populous than Great Britain, and affords a triumphant refutation of the calumnies of those who asserted that the African race would never labour continuously and profitably in a state of freedom.

The year 1828 was one of the most productive years for the Barbadian planters. In that year 338,555 cwt. of sugar was exported to Great Britain,—that was when slavery was in all its glory in our Colonies. We were then scarcely better in this matter than the Americans are now. In 1853, the quantity of Sugar exported was 583,370 cwt., being an increase of more than one-half. Meanwhile, the population has gone on progressing, and the finances are in so prosperous a state, that the income last year exceeded the expenditure by £5,000, and there was a balance in the public chest of more than £16,000 sterling. Since 1844, the population has increased, as we learn from Mr. Montgomery Martin's "British Colonies," 13,741, it being now 136,000, although the whole island does not exceed 167 square miles. The imports had increased from \$481,610, in 1832, that is before emancipation, to £767,977, in 1851, of which, above \$500,000 was for British goods. The acting governor, in his report to the colonial office, remarked, that in that year more sugar had been made and shipped than in any other year since the island had been peopled.

Why have not Jamaica and British Guiana been equally prosperous?

One of the reasons probably is, that the estates in Barbadoes are much smaller, and the proprietors generally reside on them, and accustom their families to regard the island as their home. They can therefore pay much greater attention to the cultivation of the soil, the manufacture of the sugar, and the economy of labour, than those can do who seldom or never go near their estates, and depend for their success on agents, who have frequently many estates in charge, besides concerns of their own to manage.

A second reason is, that the Barbadoes proprietors do not confine their attention to the cultivation of a single exportable article, such as sugar, coffee, or cotton, but grow almost everything required for the sustenance of their families and labourers, and also to sell in their own markets. Mr. Porter, in his work on the sugar-cane, furnishes an account of the crops during slavery on an estate in this island of 314 acres of land, worked by 150 negroes. In canes, there were 72 acres; Guinea corn and maize, 90 acres; sweet potatoes and yams, 37 acres; pumpkins, ochros and peas, 17 acres; artificial grasses, 25 acres; pasture, &c., 54 acres; let to tenants, and negro gardens, 19 acres. The value of the sugar, rum, and molasses, was £5,495 9s. 4d. currency, or above £76 per acre in Barbadoes currency. The corn, &c., £1,662 10s. The net revenue, or profit to the proprietor (himself the manager) of this estate was \$2986 sterling, or about £9 sterling per acre. Having received a compensation for the negroes, it cannot be expected that the profit should now be the same, but the produce of the whole island is at present reckoned at £7 sterling per acre.

If Jamaica, Trinidad, and British Guiana, were equally well cultivated and populous, Europe could not consume, at its present rate of consumption, the sugar, cotton, coffee, and tobacco which these colonies would supply. British Guiana alone, is nearly six hundred times the extent of Barbadoes, and being for the most part virgin land, would be far more productive, if properly drained, cleared, and cultivated. Now the way to destroy slavery in America, is to undersell the slave-owners, and thus to induce them, no longer finding their compulsory labour profitable, to give freedom to their slaves, leaving them to provide for their own wants. That this is possible, the example of Barbadoes affords proof, and in the alluvial soil of British Guiana, where the finest cotton in the world has been grown, it would be as easy to undersell the cotton-grower, who depends on slave-labour, as the sugar-grower. "Where there is a will there is a way." Where is the way? How may it be done?

1. By good, because free, economical, and just government.
2. By the establishment of perfect religious liberty.
3. By making up the sea-dams, clearing the forests which intercept the sea-breeze, and thorough draining all the land, before it is planted.
4. By putting the roads and bridges into complete repair, and taking effective measures to keep them so.
5. By establishing public mills, at which the small freeholders may get their corn ground into meal, their sugar-canes made into sugar, their cotton cleaned and packed, and their tobacco manufactured into cigars, or sold to manufacturers. In these mills all the juice would be expressed from the canes, and all the saccharine matter made into fine dry sugar, at a far less cost than that which every sugar-producer now incurs for very imperfect manufacture. Nearly all the emancipated negroes, who have purchased lands, would in such case apply the industry of their families to the cultivation of cotton, sugar-cane, corn and tobacco, and thus the exportable produce would speedily be doubled. By the conversion of their private sugar-mills into public mills, by leasing portions of their estates, and becoming merchants for the numerous farmers, who would become what our English farmers are, the present estate owners would obtain handsome returns for their capital and skill, and have leisure to apply their minds to the general improvement of the country. In short, they might become, eventually, what the highest class of our English landowners now are. These countries being thus rendered healthy, free, and prosperous, persons of skill, industry, and more or less of capital, from the over-populated islands, from Madeira, the Spanish Main, the freed blacks of America, the Brazils, Cuba, St. Domingo, and even from Africa, would flock to countries suited

to their habits, and in which they would enjoy blessings which are denied to them under despotic governments, or where slavery still prevails. To bring about such a change, a stop must be put to Government loans for, and patronage of, a system of costly emigration at the public expense, and the assistance rendered in future applied to the purposes we have indicated. In the same manner that the landowners at home have been allowed to obtain pecuniary assistance to enable them to drain and improve their estates, so, when good security can be offered, similar aid might be rendered to the West Indians, who are disposed to carry into effect those improvements which would be as beneficial to the whole community, as to the individuals immediately concerned.

Let it not be forgotten, that our West Indian colonists have been our very best customers, and that on the prosperity of these emancipated colonists the freedom of the slaves of other countries must in great measure depend. The exports, mainly of machinery and manufactured goods, from this country to our West India colonies, have in one year amounted to more than £3,000,000 sterling. The value of the imports in 1851, was nearly £5,000,000.

The Legislature of Barbadoes have petitioned for a gradual reduction of the duty on sugar. In the prospect of war, it is to be feared that they will not immediately succeed. The demand for sugar is, however, increasing, and the price remunerative, and it is to improved processes of manufacture, and cultivation by implemental instead of manual labour, rather than to further relief from taxation under the present circumstances of this country, that the colonists must now look for improvement. If they had made their application a year ago, they might have been successful, for surely they had as strong a claim for a diminution of duties as the China merchants.

The Barbadoes *Liberal*, and the *West Indian*, announced the fact, that the troops are to be withdrawn from several of the smaller islands. A single regiment, and a war-steamer, in Barbadoes, and the same in Jamaica, are probably all the military and naval force that the West Indies would require in future, especially if proper means should be taken to render all the people prosperous, and therefore contented. These papers contain some interesting facts, for which we have not space in this number.

### REFORM BANQUET AT SHEFFIELD.

The Liberals of Sheffield held on Thursday evening a political banquet, which was attended by nearly a thousand ladies and gentlemen. Invitations were sent to a great number of M.P.'s of the Independent party. Among the letters of excuse was one from Mr. Roebuck, pleading ill-health. The only toast given was "The Queen! God bless her," which was drunk with great cheering.

To Mr. Cobden was entrusted the first resolution.

"This meeting regards with much satisfaction the expressed intention of Her Majesty's Ministers to bring forward, in the coming session, a measure of Parliamentary Reform, and would urge upon the Government the propriety and the duty of placing the representation of the people in the House of Commons upon such a basis as shall do equal justice to all interests and classes of the population of the United Kingdom."

He had not taken much part hitherto in the agitation of organic reform, and he did not now appear as an advocate for universal suffrage. But he believed that every social improvement increased the fitness of the people for exercising political power, and their chance of obtaining it; and he should be delighted at the admission of a million more of the people within the electoral pale.

I have heard it objected, that the skilled labourers and mechanics of this country are not sufficiently independent to be entrusted with the franchise. I have been mixed up much during the last ten years in election contests, and my experience does not tell me that that class, if entrusted with political power, would exercise it with less independence than those filling a more important position in the social scale now manifest. But in regard to this independence of the electoral body, I hold we are bound to provide, as a part of any new scheme of Parliamentary Reform, some sufficient remedy for preventing the exercise of any undue influence upon the electors. (Hear, hear.) No scheme of Parliamentary Reform can be complete or satisfactory, which does not embrace the ballot. (Loud cheers.) I have never regarded that question as one which involved so much of a democratic tendency as some people suppose. I am not one who believes that the people of this country are democratic. I don't believe that even the germ of what is called democracy has yet budded in this country; and if the people had the ballot to-morrow, I don't think they would run to that extreme of democracy which some people suppose, merely because they could vote as they please. But I do regard the ballot as a moral engine which has never been sufficiently appreciated in this country, because I have never seen it tried at an election. (Hear.) Let me see but one town voting by ballot, and it will spread like wild-fire through the country; for, in my opinion, it would prove a remedy for all the blackguardism and ruffianism, all the brass bands, and all the tumults which now periodically disgrace our elections. It is in that point of view I wish the people, the moral and social reformers of this country, those who wish to see the people more gentle and humane in their manners, and more sober in their habits—it is for this that I wish to see them take an interest in the question. The elections, which take place every three or four years, are a kind of saturnalia, at which all the rude passions of the people are drawn forth, and all but mortal combats take place at all our polling places. That is not the case in the countries where they have the ballot.

Why did Lord John Russell and almost every Whig and Tory statesman reject even a trial of the ballot,—even a permissive bill?

I'll tell you. Open voting is a feudal institution in this country. It is as much a badge of feudalism as the corn laws were (cheers). It is because somebody in this country thinks he has a hereditary right to control somebody else's vote (hear). In

other countries the ballot is not a matter of controversy. There is not a party—I might say there is not an individual—in America, France, Spain, Sardinia, or Belgium who openly advocates a return to open voting; and where men recognise the free and uncontrolled right of another to the exercise of his opinions, there is not an argument to be found against the ballot. It is all found in the feudal assumption that the vote of one man is the property of another. I repeat it, open voting in this country is a badge of feudalism as much as the corn laws were (cheers). I maintain more; I maintain that free trade was not more demonstrably proved to be sound and fair in its principle by such writers as Adam Smith, McCulloch, Ricardo, and others, than the ballot has been demonstrated by the intellectual powers of Bentham, Grote, Mill, and others to be right and fair as a mode of voting at parliamentary elections (cheers). I say that argument has done all that argument can do in the question. It wants organisation to do it—(loud cheers); and I will add, with all sincerity, my firm belief that if, instead of being nearly fifty, I was only thirty, or the age when I began the agitation of the corn law, I would by organisation in this country undertake and pledge my honour to carry the ballot in less than five years—(loud cheers). I will add, that I feel upon this question great indignation and humiliation at the conduct pursued by our borough constituencies on this question during the last twelve months."

It was said that more electoral power should be given to the counties, but it was there that domination was triumphant. "There is no electoral life at all in five-sixths—I might have said nine-tenths—of the county constituencies of the country. They are handed over from the action of one great proprietor's house to another, in the dining-room of the greatest proprietor of the county or division." He then referred to the almost universal use of the ballot by the very people who oppose it:—

"These very people, who stigmatise it as low and un-English—which is something worse than murder (laughter)—or church burglary (laughter)—these very people are using it themselves in all their own societies. It was but the other day that I paid a visit to Oxford. Oxford University is certainly the very last place in the world I should have supposed to have been addicted to anything revolutionary or un-English. (Laughter.) Well, I found in all their proceedings in the University of Oxford, in all the proceedings of Convocation, that everything they do, except in the election of members of Parliament, they do it by vote by ballot. (Hear.) The tickets with which the vote is given, recording the votes of the master of arts, are handed in to the proctor; he sums up the number of votes, and having finished his duty of scrutineer, there is a sort of brazier brought in, with a lighted fire in it. The brazier is placed in a sort of tripod, or antique stand, and into this fire all the voting papers are put, and burned before the separation of the Convocation, in order that no trace or proof may be left of how the parties have voted. (Cheers.) Oh! if I were about fifteen years younger (laughter), I would go through the country, and I would say, Let us vote as they vote at Oxford. (Cheers and laughter.)"

He concluded by urging that the present was a most propitious time for the extension of the suffrage—it being (notwithstanding high prices and threatened war), a time of universal prosperity, and therefore of political calm.

Lord Goderich seconded the resolution in a speech which was loudly cheered. Remarking that labour had no representatives in Parliament, he said—

Now, it does seem to me that, looking at the importance of that class—looking to its intelligence and to the position which it now holds in the country—it is a state of things which is neither safe nor just. I believe that men, possessing ardent, though strong political opinions, entering vehemently into political discussion—I believe it will be far better on the whole that such men should have their class represented, and their views discussed in the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.) I believe that the most conservative gentleman, if he considers the subject wisely and carefully, will see that any such discussion is more likely to correct what is wrong, and is more likely to carry out what is true in those opinions than if they are talked about for ever in public meetings and in the streets. I believe that without such a provision a reform bill cannot be complete, for I have ever found that those classes, taken them as a whole, contain men of equal intelligence, morality, and patriotism with any other class in the community. (Great cheers.) Genius and virtue are not inheritances, as I can believe, of any class whatsoever, and they are likely to be found not less numerous among the most numerous class: It would therefore seem—looking at the vast strides which the working classes have made in the last few years—looking at the vast change which has come over them in so many respects, their increased love of order, their increased obedience to the laws, their increased knowledge—their increased morality—I believe that the time has come when it is our bounden duty to concede to them those rights which these classes want—(loud cheering)—which other classes have won. (Great cheering.)

He hoped that Lord John Russell would have more regard for his own character than to omit from his Bill the £5 franchise. (Loud cheers.) And they must not let the counties have the members taken from the "little places," which would strengthen influences already too strong; and he hoped that if the Government should appeal to the country, the electors would show that they are not indifferent to the interests of the non-electors, and that they are bound to use their power for no merely selfish purpose, but with a desire to extend to others those advantages which they themselves possess. (Cheers.)

The Chairman (Mr. Alderman Hoole), in putting the resolution, warmly eulogised the speech they had just heard.

After short speeches from Mr. Cheetham, M.P., and Mr. Barnes, M.P., the Chairman called on Mr. Bright, who was received with protracted cheering, and moved—

"That this meeting is deeply sensible of the evils and disgrace which arise from the prevalence of intimidation and corruption in various forms among the county and borough constituencies of the kingdom, and would urge upon the government the necessity of affording to the whole electoral body the shelter and protection of the mode of voting understood by the secret ballot."

He commenced by contesting the opinion that apathy generally existed with respect to the question of reform.



On the contrary, everybody was for it; not a newspaper now opposed Parliamentary Reform. After advertising to the inequality of the representation in the large and populous districts of Yorkshire, he said:—

The present government are evidently sensible that this state of things will not be borne much longer; and therefore most judiciously, at a time of great tranquillity and prosperity, they have undertaken to advance another, and I hope a considerable step in the way of Parliamentary Reform. We must have a wider franchise. Manchester has at this moment 80,000 grown men in it, 18,000 of whom are on the list of voters; 60,000 are, therefore, excluded. Shall I take upon myself the responsibility of saying to this 60,000 men in Manchester, that not one more of them, unless they get into £10 houses, shall have a vote for that borough? (Hear, hear.) Does any man believe that, with our platforms free and our press free, a system can be maintained which says, as it were, to four out of every five of all the householders in this intelligent and prosperous country, you live in a free country, with a limited monarchy and a representative system, but you shall only have one vote in five houses, four of you being too ignorant—too debased—too wild and visionary in your notions—too desperate in your theories—too dangerous and destructive in your objects, to be admitted within the pale of the representative institutions of the country? (Loud applause.) I say that any man who can suppose that such a system as this can be maintained, must have been asleep for the last twenty years, and I don't know that that being so, it would be of much use that he should now open his eyes and become awake to anything at all. For my part, I am not a bit afraid of a large extension of the electoral franchise; and if you propose to add one million to the present number, why not add two millions? That would be a great and a sensible gain. I believe we might add another million without experiencing any disadvantage. [Applause.] I know that with regard to all these measures the Government must consult the opinion of the country.—the opinion not only of those who at present enjoy the franchise, not only the opinion of the most ardent and enthusiastic of those who are unenfranchised, but the opinion of all classes. They must consult the timid as well as the most courageous, and must even, moreover, pay some deference to the ignorance of those who, after all experience, still doubt the honesty and good faith of the people. The Government must take what step they can to add one or two millions to the present number of voters, and I have no fear that any proposition for the extension of the franchise which they can make, will be such a one as I should hold to be dangerous enough to induce me to withhold my support from it. [Laughter and applause.]

The hon. gentleman then made some forcible observations in support of vote by ballot, and concluded amidst loud applause.

The other speakers were Mr. Kershaw, M.P., Mr. Hadfield, M.P., Mr. F. Crossley, M.P., and Mr. L. Heyworth, M.P. Mr. Crossley remarked, that of a thousand adult males employed by his firm, not one had a vote; and Mr. Heyworth defended universal suffrage.

#### CAPITAL AND LABOUR COMBINATIONS.

Although the Preston strikers still maintain their position, an opinion seems to gain ground that this protracted struggle is drawing to a close. The hands of Messrs. Almond and Co. have agreed to resume work at the prices offered by that firm, which are said to average as near the Blackburn standard list as possible. Those gentlemen, however, cannot open their establishment until their case has been considered by the Masters' Association, the adjourned meeting of which will be held on Thursday (to-morrow). A rumour is current that the operatives late in the employ of Messrs. Swainson, Brothers, are also willing to resume work on the masters' terms, providing a promise should be given of an advance when trade improved. Several convictions have taken place for intimidation exercised towards the people who have gone to work for Mr. Hollins. Another case is that of Robert McClellan. This man (who has eleven children) having obtained work at Mr. Hollins' for one of his daughters and another young woman, took lodgings for them in Preston (their home being at Farington, a village about three miles distant). Some of the Preston operatives having ascertained that McClellan had secured accommodation for the women at the house of a person named Proctor, a body of them proceeded thither, and declared that, unless the lodgers were excluded, they would pull the place down. On the two young women going to the factory they were surrounded by a mob, and, notwithstanding the presence of policemen, were seriously maltreated. The board of guardians have appointed a committee to inquire into the matter, it being resolved to report the case to the magistrates if satisfactory evidence could be procured. The operative leaders have done all they could to prevent these disgraceful proceedings, even to patrolling with the police in front of Mr. Hollins' mill for the preservation of order.

The week's income of the operatives is £2,081, including a balance of £98. There was an increase of 383 in the number of applicants for relief—consisting chiefly of the "lock-outs" at Farington, who, not having hitherto participated in the relief, have suffered severely. The masters have also received the first instalment of the Defence Fund.

Of the many statements and counter-statements with which the town is placarded, the most important is one headed, "Are the Delegates anxious for a settlement of the Dispute?" in which it is said that—

"On Monday, the 2nd instant, a communication was made to Mr. Cowell, to the effect that a gentleman of position and influence, one practically acquainted with the cotton trade, though in no way interested in it, seeing the misery caused by the obstinacy with which the dispute was being prolonged, and anxious for a settlement of it, offered his services as a mediator. He had no doubt that any proposals made in a proper spirit would be similarly received by the masters, and there was a reasonable probability that a negotiation conducted in good faith might have led to a satisfac-

tory issue. Mr. Cowell received the suggestion favourably, and promised to make the communication to the committee, who would at once give an answer to it—acknowledging at the same time the kindness which led to the proposal. Will it be believed that, on Mr. Cowell being asked this week for the answer—more than a fortnight after his receipt of the offer—he had never mentioned the fact to the committee at all? His excuse was that he had forgotten it."

Mr. Cowell says, in reply, the delegates have always invited mediation, and are still ready to accept it. At the usual meeting on Monday, he also stated, that the weavers' committee were removing families from the town by wholesale, and that, as a consequence, whenever the mills opened there would be a dearth of hands. He implored the masters, at their meeting on Thursday next, to re-consider the line of policy they had been pursuing. The chairman mentioned, that one of the large manufacturers being asked what they would do for hands when they opened their mills, so many having left the town, replied,—“Oh, that question does not trouble us at all. The smaller masters will not be able to start, and therefore there will be a supply of hands for us.” (Oh, oh!) Now (said the chairman), if I were a small manufacturer, I should start first, and then see how these big men would go on. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

The colliers round Bradford have demanded an advance of wages—the fourth within a brief period; and some of the owners have granted it; but others resist, and the men have turned out. There is also a strike of miners near Wakefield.

The cloth-bleachers at Barnsley, at the end of the year, asked for an increase of wages and a diminution of the hours of labour. Last week, the masters had a conference with delegates appointed by the men: the employers offered to reduce the hours, and to increase wages for "over hours." This did not satisfy the delegates and their clients, and notice was given of a strike.

The worsted-weavers at Mr. Lund's mill at Keighley, after a twenty-weeks' strike, have decided to return to work at the old wages.

There is a new movement among the artisans of Portsmouth Dockyard for an increase of wages: they complain that high prices have reduced them almost to the starving point.

Symptoms of a lingering disposition among the lower class of artisans to resort to violence, and of the moral intimidation inseparable from trades' unions, are seen in the London police reports of the week. On Monday, the magistrate at Bow-street had to decide a case arising out of the shoemakers' strike. Cornelius Sullivan was charged with a brutal assault on William Humphries. Sullivan had been formerly in the employment of a Mr. Kendal, a shoemaker in Drury-lane, but had joined the strike for wages. Humphries had accepted the work at the old rate. It appeared from the evidence that the men on strike regularly waylaid the new hands when returning from their work for the purpose of assaulting them. The policeman called as a witness stated that he saw the prisoner knock down the complainant on Saturday night, several of the defendant's companions joining him in the attack. The prisoner was remanded, the magistrate refusing to deal with the case summarily.

William Tanner, a stonemason in the employment of a contracting firm at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, was summoned on Saturday, for having used threats and intimidation, in order to compel a workman, named Wilcock, to belong to the Masons' Union. The offence was fully proved. Amongst the witnesses was the foreman of the masons, who was reproved by the magistrate for yielding to the intimidation of the union, and dismissing the complainant from employment.

The conference convened by the Society of Arts will not be held till the 31st. inst.

#### DEFENCE OF THE CORPORATION.

The meetings of the City Corporation Commission have been continued during the past week, and amongst the friends of the civic institutions who have given evidence, have been Mr. Merewether, Mr. L. Tyrell, Mr. Stuart Wortley, Mr. Charles Pearson, and Sir John Key.

Mr. Merewether handed in an accurate list of the City charters, and of the sums paid for them from time to time; beginning with King Stephen, in 1139, when 100 silver marks were paid for the privilege of choosing Sheriffs, down to Charles the First, when £4,200 was paid for the charter respecting portage. Mr. Merewether avers that the corporation are anxious to have but one franchise for all purposes within the City. With regard to the suit pending between the City and the Crown, as to the soil and bed of the Thames, Mr. Merewether explained, that the corporation think the crown should establish its right by writ of intrusion, instead of assuming its right, and calling on the corporation to show their right. There is no trace whatever, in any records, of any right of the crown to all the soil of all the rivers in the kingdom between high and low water-mark. The corporation are anxious to afford every facility for trying the question; but they object to the mode of proceeding adopted by the crown. Mr. Merewether admitted, however, that there is "no charter conveying the right to the soil and bed of the river to the corporation."

Mr. E. Tyrell, City Remembrancer, stated that he holds that office at a salary of £1,000, and about £250 for office charges and expenses. His main duties are to act as Parliamentary solicitor to the corporation, and to examine every bill brought into either House, and watch those affecting the City. Besides this, he attends to all matters of form, ceremony, and custom. He does not see the slightest objection to publishing

the items of the corporation bills for Parliamentary expenses, which are now lumped together as money paid to the Remembrancer for so and so. As a general principle, the corporation insists on the exemption of the City from any measure which was thought to affect injuriously the rights and privileges of the citizens. The corporation did not oppose the Charitable Trusts Act. The Lord Chancellor, from some view of his own, and without the slightest communication with the corporation, did not apply the same process to the charities, the income of which is under £30, within the City, as to other charities of that amount elsewhere. Outside the City, small charities go to the Judge of the County Court; while in the City, they go, not to the Judge of the County Court, but to the Court of Chancery in the ordinary way. That distinction was not introduced at the instance of the City, nor was it desired by them. Within ten years, the corporation has introduced clauses saving the rights and privileges of the City into five acts of Parliament—the Small Debts Act, the Health of Towns Act, the Metropolitan Sewers Act, the Common Lodginghouse Act, and the Smoke Prevention Act. The two last were opposed, because the powers they conferred were not so stringent as those already possessed by the corporation under the local Sewers Act. "There is no desire on the part of the City for separate or exceptional legislation. I assert that positively from my knowledge of the corporation."

Mr. Stuart Wortley, the City Recorder, stated that his salary is £3,000 a year. Besides this, he receives fees for meeting counsel not connected with the corporation: in 1852 his fees were 160 guineas, but in 1851 and 1853 only 16 and 15 guineas respectively. He is the chief legal adviser of the corporation, an attendant of the Lord Mayor on all state occasions, and reader of addresses to the crown. In the Courts of Aldermen and Common Council, he sits at the right of the Lord Mayor, and puts the question in form. He is the Chief Judge in the Central Criminal Court, excepting her Majesty's Judges. But he has no control over the management of the legal business of the city. One of his duties is to certify the customs of the City, by word of mouth. That is done by ascertaining the custom, certifying it by word of mouth, and then handing in a parchment record for convenience. In reference to the suit regarding the right to the soil and bed of the Thames, Mr. Wortley also objected to the course pursued by the Crown. "If it was not an evasion of the proper and legal course, it was a choice of the most harsh, by far the most expensive, and the most cumbrous mode of proceeding. The corporation have been most anxious to bring this suit to an amicable settlement; and I regret that Mr. Pemberton, in his evidence, did not allude to this, instead of representing the corporation to be actuated by a contentious and litigious spirit." Mr. Wortley subsequently added an opinion on the merits of the Aldermen as magistrates. "So far as I have an opportunity of forming an opinion, as the judge of a criminal court, from the depositions placed before me, the commitments of the City magistrates bear a most advantageous comparison with those of any other magistrates who commit."

Mr. Charles Pearson, the Solicitor to the City, has a salary of £2,000 a year; but in consequence of deductions his net income is about £1,700 a year. His duties are—"to advise the corporation and all the committees and commissions upon any question of law; to conduct all their suits and prosecutions, and to advise upon general matters when called upon to do so; to attend all committees, and to give my best advice upon all matters on which my opinion may be asked." The greater part of Mr. Pearson's evidence related to the past history of the suit against Combe, Delafield and Company, for corn-metage, now hung up on appeal in the House of Lords. He thinks the spirit of the corporation would be opposed to enforcing the right against Combe and Company. [The right claimed by the corporation is the metage of Combe and Company's own corn.] The corporation care very little about the case, as it would only be a barren triumph for them.

Sir John Key, the City Chamberlain, has a salary of £2,500 a year. He says his office is no sinecure. He is responsible for the whole management of the city funds, and is occupied daily from ten till five o'clock. During the last year the receipts for which he was answerable amounted to £1,219,511, and the payments to £1,229,242. He adjudicates differences between masters and apprentices, and has the power of sending the latter to Bridewell. His election cost him £5,000, not £7,000 as had been stated. He scarcely knew how it went; but the sum expended for refreshments to voters did not exceed £100. He denied that any sum had been subscribed by any aldermen towards paying the expenses of his election.

#### PRINCE ALBERT.

The rumours of Prince Albert's interference in our Foreign policy, continue to be a topic of newspaper discussion. His defence has been taken up by both the *Times* and *Morning Chronicle*. The latter, though not contradicting the painful rumours of Court intrigue, appeals to the better feelings of the English nation in withholding its judgment until the subject has been noticed in Parliament. The accusations are denounced as atrocious, rancorous, shameful, and we know not what else; and the Liberal press are appealed to, "not to goad the people to disgraceful fury." Prince Albert, we are told, is "a defenceless man," as "helpless against the torrent of defamation as a woman or a child." The clamour is "an attempt to aim a blow at the Government." The *Times* in an article last Wednesday treats the charges as the baseless inventions of disappointed party spirit, and puts them in the same category with the wonderful stories which certain dabblers in foreign politics have retailed about Lord Aberdeen having pocketed a considerable number of roubles for selling



English interests to the Czar. It nevertheless counsels the Prince to continue the discreet policy he has hitherto pursued. "The Prince Consort is surely well enough aware, *by this time*," says the *Times*, "that he has nothing to do with the duties of Government. He well knows, that any attempt to step out of his legitimate province would be firmly repelled; and he is far too wise a man to sacrifice his well-earned popularity for any such foolish schemes of political power as his calumniators have dared to impute to him." The *Daily News* reminds the *Times* of what occurred two years ago when Lord Palmerston resigned, and when the rumours of princely intermeddling were too general to be accounted for in the way the *Times* would have those now current. The *Daily News* neither believes nor disbelieves the charges—all it says is, that they are so generally credited "that they ought to be inquired into." The *Times*, having put into the mouth of Prince Albert's accusers, certain ridiculous accusations which had never been made, the *Morning Advertiser* recapitulates all the charges which it has ver preferred against His Royal Highness in the following eight questions:—

"We have asked, and we again ask:—

"First—Is it true, that the Prince is habitually present at the meetings which Her Majesty has with her leading Ministers when they have important measures to submit to her, and that he asks questions, makes suggestions, and otherwise interferes in affairs of State on those occasions?"

"Second—Is it true that he reads despatches from Foreign Courts relative to questions of the most momentous kind, even before those despatches have been submitted to the Ministers themselves, and then writes to those Courts unknown to Ministers?"

"Third—Is it true, that he has a third key to the 'Queen's Despatch Box,' and that when the result of the deliberations of the Cabinet are embodied in despatches, and sent down to Windsor or Osborne, he opens the box before the Queen sees it, takes out, reads, and alters the despatches intended for foreign Ambassadors?"

"Fourth—Is it true, that he receives important communications from Courts abroad relative to our foreign policy, which he does not show to Ministers?"

"Fifth—Is it true, that he makes alterations in the despatches of the Foreign Secretary before they are forwarded to the Courts for which they are intended?"

"Sixth—Is it true, that he, himself, writes private letters to Foreign Courts relative to the affairs of this country?"

"Seventh—Is it true, that he interferes at the Horse Guards to an extent which has excited general surprise and condemnation?"

"Eighth—Is it true, that he exercises an influence over the patronage of the State, in various departments, which is most injurious to the public service, as well as contrary to the spirit of the constitution?"

"These questions embody some of the graver charges preferred against His Royal Highness; but the *Times* does not even attempt to deny a single one of their number. As the *Times* is so ready and emphatic in its denial of charges which were never made,—at least, we are not aware that they have been so,—we have a right to conclude, and the country will conclude, that, as the organ of the Court does not deny any of the accusations which really have been advanced, they are but too well founded."

Closely connected with this subject is Lord Palmerston's resignation, which, in the absence of proper explanations, is again made the topic of controversy. "All who know anything of Court affairs," says one of our contemporaries, indisposed to condemn the Prince Consort without stronger and more tangible evidence, "knew full well, two years ago, that Lord Palmerston was suddenly and rather roughly dismissed, in consequence of his being unacceptable with certain continental powers, who found means to make their sentiments known in the highest quarters, through the medium of her Majesty's consort. Equally notorious is it, that in consequence of this dismissal, his lordship refused, a year ago, to have anything to do with the present Cabinet, until the reflection cast upon him in 1852 was effaced, by a personal request from the Sovereign herself, that he would again give her his services. In all these transactions, the influence of the consort of her Majesty was never out of view; and we are not at all aware that any new facts have recently become known on this subject." The old fact, however, has turned up under new aspects; and, in the very same column, our contemporary, after remarking, that "it is now pretty well understood, that Lord Palmerston's resignation of 1851 was immediately compelled by the interlineation of his despatches," proceeds to cite from the *Morning Advertiser* the following pointed inquiries relating to the recent resignation:—

"Is it true that, a few days previously to Lord Palmerston's retirement from office on the 15th of December last, he forwarded to her Majesty, for her Majesty's signature, a paper relative to certain sanitary regulations for large towns, and that, instead of being sent back to the Home-Office with the Royal signature attached to it, it was returned unsigned, and very much interlined in the hand-writing of another party?"

"Is it further true, that Lord Palmerston was much offended, as it was right and proper he should, by this interference with his functions as Home Secretary, by an irresponsible individual, having no seat in the Cabinet, and filling no office recognised by the constitution; and that, with a spirit and self-respect which must elicit everywhere the warmest admiration, the noble lord caused the document to be recopied as it originally stood, omitting all the interlineations made by the foreign hand, and then sent it back to Windsor for the royal signature, which was promptly adhibited to it?"

"Is it, moreover, true, that immediately after this Lord Aberdeen called on Lord Palmerston, and lectured him rather sharply on the disrespect he had shown to the highest personage in the realm, by the course he had pursued, and that Lord Palmerston, in consequence, immediately sent in his resignation?"

"Is it, lastly, true, that an ample apology was made to the noble lord, coupled with an assurance that no interference would again be made with his functions as Home Secretary, and that it was on receiving this apology and this assurance, and not till then, that Lord Palmerston consented to return to the Ministry?"

"These are exceedingly simple questions, and they admit of exceedingly simple answers."

### Political Facts and Gossip.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office on Saturday, and sat four hours and a-half. Another was held yesterday.

The letter copied into our last number from the daily papers, which originally appeared in the *Morning Herald*, turns out to be a fabrication. The Secretary of the Duke de Nemours is authorized to state, that such a letter has never existed.

The following letter, dated "Claremont, Jan. 18," and signed "Edward Cust," has appeared in consequence of statements chiefly in the Tory journals:—"As a rumour has obtained general circulation that the Princes of the House of Bourbon intend to have a meeting at this mansion in the month of March, I have authority to inform you that no such intended meeting is known to the persons most interested in such a circumstance."

The *Times* is requested to state, on positive authority, that the Princes of the Bourbon family have no accredited organ in the press of France or of any other country, and that the opinions which have been attributed to them on the important questions now agitated in Europe are as unfounded as the hopes they have been supposed to entertain.

There is every reason to believe that the question as to the choice of a representative for the University of Oxford, in the room of Sir Robert Inglis, has been finally settled, and that Sir William Heathcote will be elected without opposition. Lord Robert Cecil has declined the invitation to stand in the Tory interest, and Dr. Travers Twiss has also declined to contest the University in the present vacancy. Sir John Pakington also declined. We observe (says the *Times*) that the organs of the Low Church party weary themselves in finding excuses for accepting Sir William Heathcote; but, if they ever mean to regain a share in the representation of the University, they must find out or train up a candidate with views more in accordance with the wants of the age than those professed by their candidates of late years, or be prepared to see both seats constantly occupied by their antagonists.

The new Reform Bill for England is now, we hear, ready and complete, with the cordial concurrence of the entire Government—Lord Palmerston and Lord Lansdowne not in any sense or degree excepted. It is understood to embrace both a broad disfranchisement (perhaps between 50 and 70 small boroughs), and a broad enfranchisement, but not a uniform five-pound qualification for boroughs.—*Scotsman*.

The Vote by Ballot Society have issued an address to the Liberal electors of the eastern division of Gloucestershire, in which they call attention to the fact, that the return of a Tory at the late election was entirely owing to the screw put upon the tenants by the landlords, and invite the electors to make a public demonstration in favour of the Ballot.

The Liberal portion of the Liverpool constituency have adopted a petition to the House of Commons praying for a special commission of inquiry, with a view to the disfranchisement of the freemen, since "it consists neither with the welfare of the State, nor with the public decency and morality, that the choice of representatives for this great community should remain, as at present, virtually in the hands of those who are ready to vote, without respect of persons or of principles, for 5s. in money, a breakfast and a few glasses of ale." They believe that extensive bribery took place at the last election.

The Cambridge Town-Council are about to petition the House of Commons to adopt stringent measures for the more effectual suppression of electoral corruption.

Two screw steamers, 140 feet each in the keel, are building in the Tyne, ostensibly for Russian merchants, really for the Russian Government, and their engines are being executed with great despatch in a large work in this town. The seafaring population in the northern coal ports are indignant, and it is thought no Russian war vessel would ever be allowed to leave the Tyne.

The usual dinners and meetings which precede the opening of Parliament are already announced. On the 30th instant Lord Aberdeen entertains the Cabinet and the great officers of state, and on the same day Lord Derby musters the Opposition at his table. Earl Granville, as Lord President, will give his usual official banquet to the ministers, the great officers of state, and the clerks of the council, when the roll of sheriffs for the ensuing year will be arranged, on Saturday next, in Burton-street. Lord John Russell has arrived in town from Richmond, for the season. He gives a Parliamentary dinner on the 30th.

There are thirty-eight notices of motion on the order-book of the House of Commons; and several bills printed last session will be moved at the commencement of this.

Philip E. Wodehouse, Esq., formerly of Ceylon, and now Superintendent at Honduras, is to succeed Sir Henry Barkly in the government of British Guiana.

Mr. A. Pollatt, member for Southwark, has given

notice of a bill for abolishing the law of settlement and removal of the poor; for establishing an uniform Poor-rate in England and Wales, retaining the present mode of collecting and expending the funds through a central treasury in connexion with the Poor-Law Board; to amend the laws for the protection and comfort of aged married paupers, and for the more just, efficient, and economical management of the poor.

Meetings on "Russian Aggression" are still held. A crowded and enthusiastic towns' meeting came off at Southampton, on Tuesday, the Mayor in the chair, at which decided resolutions were passed, one of which was to the effect that the Emperor of Russia having refused to withdraw his armies from the Principalities, the Four Powers are bound in honour and the interests of civilization to aid the Sultan, if necessary, by force of arms, in expelling him, to require that he should pay all the expenses of the war, and also, in entering into any new arrangements, to take measures for securing the future tranquillity of Europe by a well-defined treaty, which shall have for one of its conditions the opening of the Black Sea at all times to the ships of all nations. Meetings have also been held at Bodmin and at Derby.

### DREADFUL SHIPWRECK.

The "Tayleur," a magnificent new iron emigrant-ship, bound for Melbourne, sailed from the Mersey at noon on Thursday, with a fine south-east wind, in tow of the steam-tug "Victory," and was left by that steamer at 7 o'clock in the evening, about 6 miles E.S.E. of the Skerries, and with every prospect of having a favourable run down Channel. There was a change of wind, however, during the night of Thursday, and on Friday the wind was W.S.W. and S.W., and very little progress was made. About noon on Saturday land was sighted, distance three or four miles, but it was some time before it was ascertained what part of the coast the ship was on, and she rapidly drifted on to what afterwards proved to be a rock known by the name of the "Nose of Lambay Island," near Dublin-bay. After first striking she went broadside on to the rock, filled with water, and slid off and sank, leaving only the tops of her masts visible above water. When the ship struck, the passengers rushed on deck, and, as it was evident that the vessel must soon go to pieces, desperate efforts were made to reach the land. It is uncertain whether the boats were used for the purpose, or with what effect; but it is stated that a rope was run from the vessel to the shore and made fast there. To this a large number of the unfortunate passengers clung with the hope of reaching land, but while they were endeavouring to do so, the vessel gave a sudden lurch, by which they were almost every one precipitated into the sea, then fearfully beating upon the rocks, and deprived of the means and the hope of escape. The greater part of them thus perished. Out of the entire number on board it is stated that about 250 succeeded in making the island; so that, according to this estimate, more than 200 of the wretched sufferers perished within sight, and almost within reach of land. Among them saved, are included the captain, the first and third mates, and, it is said, ten of the crew. The cries of the unfortunate creatures who perished while struggling in the water are described to have been harrowing in the extreme. The City of Dublin Company's steamer "Princess" was dispatched, with all haste, for Kingstown, to bring off the survivors. She had not returned according to the latest advices. The wretched plight of the passengers at Lambay is described as truly distressing. The coast-guard men were unceasing in their exertions to alleviate as much as possible the misery of the situation of those who most needed their good offices.

### TEMPERANCE AND THE WORKING-CLASSES.

At the Fifth Monthly Meeting of the National Temperance Society, held at the Whittington Club, on January 16th, J. Groves, coal-whipper; W. Green, warehouseman; A. Robinson, paper-stainer; and T. Munday, blacksmith's-hammerman, delivered addresses in favour of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks. The chief points illustrated and end forced by the various speakers, were the compatibility of entire abstinence from such liquors with the severest manual labour, the valuable domestic and religious benefit which that practice was calculated to ensure, and the important influence which its universal adoption would exert in settling to the advantage of all parties, the vexing questions which are now at issue between employers and the employed. A large audience listened with attention and frequent marks of sympathy to the statements made, and to none more than those offered at the conclusion by the chairman, S. C. Hall, Esq., Editor of the *Art Journal*, who bore emphatic testimony to the numerous advantages which, as a worker with the brain, he had reaped from his personal abstinence, which had been of several years' continuance. Serious reflection had been originated in his mind on the subject by an incident which had occurred during one of his Irish excursions; and as he had been led to thought and subsequent decision by the conversation of a poor Irish guide, he impressed it upon his hearers, that the humblest among them might do much to induce individuals in a class perhaps superior to their own to make trial of the principle which they had tested and found so beneficial in its results. Some practical remarks at an earlier period of the evening had been made by Dr. Oxley, of Hackney, and Mr. Baker, recently a slave, who had never tasted strong drinks in the course of his life; and after a few words from the secretary, Rev. Dawson Barnes, the meeting concluded at a few minutes after 10 o'clock.



## Law and Police.

A singular trial occupied the Court of Exchequer during the whole of Thursday and was not concluded till a late hour on Friday evening. It was the case of *Bolden v. Bright and others*, an action to recover £68, the amount of the plaintiff's bill of costs for professional services rendered in his capacity as attorney. The defendant pleaded never indebted. The defendant is a member of a family of considerable standing in Leicestershire and Warwickshire, and was at one period worth £26,000, of which it was stated, in the course of the trial, she had wasted upon a young medical gentleman, who had seduced her, no less a sum than £4,000, and had thereby been reduced for a time after his desertion of her to a condition of great distress, from which she was rescued by one of her brothers. At length the conduct of this lady induced her family to consult medical gentlemen on the subject of her sanity, and eventually they obtained the necessary certificates, and she was placed in a lunatic asylum at Northampton, and subsequently in another asylum near Cheltenham. From this last asylum she had been discharged under an order signed by Dr. Brooks and two other magistrates of the county of Gloucester, as being sane. Having made some complaints to these gentlemen that her family had taken her property from her, namely, a debenture in the South-Western Railway Company, bearing interest at 4 per cent. for £2,000, they recommended her to apply to some respectable solicitor, and accordingly, in the course of time, Miss Bright gave instructions to the plaintiff, who is the solicitor to the Alleged Lunatics' Friends Society in Craven-street, to demand, and, in case of necessity, to adopt such legal means as might be necessary to obtain the bond. The plaintiff not being able to obtain the bond was compelled to file a bill for the recovery of it, and for an injunction to restrain the defendant's brother from receiving the forthcoming coupons. This bill was never prosecuted, nor was any answer put in by the brother, an arrangement having been come to in respect of the bond. This arrangement, however, it was urged, on behalf of the plaintiff, had not been duly carried out, and in the end he brought the present action for the recovery of the costs of the proceedings he had conducted. On the part of the defendant, it was contended that the lady was not of sound mind at the time, nor had she been for some years. She had given the instructions to the plaintiff, and that, in fact, he had prosecuted the proceedings in his character of solicitor to the society, for the society, and not for the defendant. A number of witnesses were examined to show that the course of life the defendant had led was indicative of an unsound mind, and that her ways and manners clearly proved her to be so. The trial ended by the jury returning a verdict for the plaintiff for the amount claimed; adding, that they considered Miss Bright to be of sound mind, and mentally competent to enter into the contract. They thought that the plaintiff had acted fairly, uprightly, and properly in the matter. Mr. Baron Platt, who tried the case, said that he was of the same opinion.

Lord Campbell has decided, in the case of the *Queen v. the Russell Institution*, that a society whose chief feature is a newspaper reading room, is not a society for the cultivation of literature, science and the arts; and, therefore, not entitled to exemption from rates.

The same learned lord stated, in remarking on the necessity for a public prosecutor, with regard to private prosecutions, where a defendant was tried *in nisi prius*, and the court pronounced judgment, there was great difficulty in enforcing the sentence which was pronounced. Although, upon an intimation being made to him, the Secretary of State for the Home Department spared no efforts on his part, still it was very desirable that it should be the duty of a public functionary to enforce such sentences. The Attorney-General said he was much obliged to his lordship for enunciating such a proposition.

Dr. Lushington has given judgment in the Consistory Court against the Italian Croci, whose wife sued for a divorce, on the ground of adultery and cruelty. The former charge the Judge considered fully established.

The beadle and inspector of nuisances in the hamlet of Rateliff has brought a very appalling case of destitution under the notice of the Thames police court magistrate. He stated that on Saturday he was sent for to a small tenement in St. James's-place, Rateliff, where a most awful sight presented itself. In one corner of a small room, was the emaciated body of a poor woman, who appeared to have died of cold and starvation. It was lying on a heap of short and dirty straw, which had very much the appearance of chaff, and it was covered with the remains of an old and ragged quilt. There was no furniture, provisions, or fuel of any kind in the place. The husband of the woman, a fruit-vendor named Ellis, who was in the room, said that he and his wife had been reduced to great distress, and he was unable to obtain food for them; that he lay down by the side of his wife on the floor the previous night, and when he awoke in the morning, he found she was cold and motionless. The poor fellow called in a neighbour, and found that the unfortunate woman was dead. Pemble added, that he had seen hundreds of cases of destitution which had affected him very much, but never before saw such a dreadful one as this. The husband of the deceased was an industrious man, but a series of misfortunes—the high price of provisions, and his inability to purchase fruit—had brought him to a state of utter destitution, and his wife had died for want of common necessities. Ellis, a poor wretched-looking creature, confirmed all that the beadle had stated, and said he had been turned out of a room he occupied in Brook-street, Rateliff, because he could not pay his rent. He had applied to one of the relieving officers of the Stepney union, and the parish doctor had

seen his invalid wife; but all they obtained was a loaf of bread and some oatmeal, with an order to go into the workhouse, which he declined doing because he did not wish to be separated from his wife. Mr. Yardley was much astonished that relief had been doled out on so small a scale to the destitute people, and thought in a case like this meat and other nourishment should have been supplied. There was neglect, he was afraid, on the part of some one. It was very painful indeed to hear of such a case. He felt surprised the doctor had not recommended some nourishment for the man and his wife while they were in such a deplorable state, more particularly as the same doctor had recommended several cases of distress to him by letter, and he had attended to them. Ellis said the doctor had not been near his starving wife for three weeks. Mr. Yardley awarded the man a sovereign from the poor-box, and told him to make the best use of it he could, and the case might be mentioned to him again.

At the same court, a notorious river thief and "tier ranger," visiting the tiers of shipping in the night time, has been committed, charged with breaking into the cabin of the ship "Maria," lying at Old Sun Wharf, Rateliff, and committing a robbery. The mate of the "Maria" was in his berth one morning between 4 and 5 o'clock, when he heard the fire-irons in the cabin rattle, and upon listening heard a person walking about. He cried out, "Who is there?" and all was silent. He turned out and groped about the cabin, but could find no one. He obtained a light, and found the prisoner screwed up under the cabin table, with his shoes off. He had stolen two pairs of trousers, and a piece of coin.

The Post Office authorities receiving many complaints of missing letters from the Holloway district, set a trap, and detected the thief. At Bow-street, the inspector of letter-carriers produced as many as 70 letters which had been stolen recently and opened by the prisoner, and which had contained sums of money, Christmas presents, and New-year's gifts, of various kinds. They all bore the post-mark of the district in which the prisoner collected letters. He stands committed for trial.

The Lambeth police report discloses a most melancholy tale of "the bottle." Mrs. Mary Ann Prinna, when Miss Healy, was a most admired actress and vocalist, and filled Drury-lane to the ceiling. She married Mr. Prinna, an accomplished musician, and one of the best organists of his time. Soon after her marriage Mrs. Prinna unfortunately gave way to habits of intoxication, and indulged her unfortunate passion to such an extent that her husband was obliged to part from her, but made her an allowance sufficient to keep her in comfort. Her extravagance in gin, however, became so expensive, that she soon began to neglect her person, and got from bad to worse. At the death of her husband she became the recipient, as his widow, of a pension from the funds of the Society of Musicians, and becoming thus free from control, she gave herself up altogether to gin-drinking. She has been brought up to the Lambeth court at least fifty times. On the last occasion, when found lying in the kennel, a wine bottle half full of gin was found under her head. At that time she begged hard to be discharged, as she did on all occasions, promising that she would at once start for Dover, where she had an old friend, under whose care she would place herself, and never more taste gin. When on Tuesday last the prisoner was put to the bar, Mr. Norton, addressing her, said:—

Well, Mrs. Prinna, here you are again, and in such a dreadful state too. How on earth have you come by these frightful black eyes and awfully swollen cheeks?

Mr. Prinna.—Well, sir, I think that a friend who was in my company with me must have struck me.

Mr. Norton.—A drunken friend, I suppose?

Mrs. Prinna.—Yes, sir, I will admit it; but the fact is that I got into a horrid place with the owners of a penny gaff, and the place being no better than a common brothel, so that I was so anxious to get out of it that I made up my mind to go to the station, and they have got my things there.

Mr. Norton.—Then why get among such people? The fact unquestionably is, that this horrid gin has gradually brought you down lower and lower, so that they would not admit you into any decent place, and you are therefore obliged to go into low places.

Cook, the gaoler.—That is the case, sir; and I never recollect the prisoner being brought here that she has not complained of somebody or other robbing her; but the fact is, that she gets drunk and loses her property.

Mrs. Prinna.—I have burst a blood-vessel, and I thought I should have died in the station last night. I wish to go to prison, sir, and I wish you would send me there.

Mr. Norton.—When a person feels grateful for being sent to prison it bespeaks the last stage of misery; and as it is your wish, I shall send you there for twenty-one days.

Mrs. Prinna.—Thank you, sir; I am very much obliged to you.

The Unions doctor has since written to the magistrate stating that repeated efforts to induce Ellis to enter the Union-house—where alone his wife would receive the attention needed—were unavailing. The man had adhered to his determination even after the death of his wife—in fact both preferred starvation to separation from each other. The beadle, whose humane interference was so much commended by the magistrate, has expended £4 in providing a home and some necessities for the wretched old man. The money having been forwarded to the magistrate by various benevolent persons.

James Boyd, groom, Edward Symes, and Joseph Floyd, two cabmen, charged with stealing £1,800-worth of jewellery, the property of Mr. Alexander, of Hatton-garden, from his brougham, have been committed for trial.

William Copley, a bluecoat-boy, aged fifteen, and who was dressed in the usual attire, was charged at the Marylebone court, with having burglariously broken out of the house of Mr. George Brydget, Finchley, after stealing therefrom five sovereigns. The prisoner is the son of a respectable farmer, and the two families are upon terms of intimacy. He had been to Mr. Brydget's house for the holidays, and after he had gone the money was missed. He at once acknowledged having taken it. He said that, after

leaving the house, he went back and hid himself under Mr. Brydget's bed, and when he was asleep he crept out and took the sovereigns from his waistcoat pocket, after which he left the house and went back to school. The prisoner's father, who seemed to be much affected by the disgraceful position of his son, addressed the magistrate, and hoped he would show as much clemency as he could. Mr. Long, after admonishing the prisoner, discharged him.

## Accidents and Offences.

There was a serious fire on Tuesday in New-street, Covent-garden. Three children were saved by the daring of Cooper, the sub-engineer, who dashing up the stairs through the smoke, brought one out in each hand, and then fetched the third on his back!

A drunken man recently mounted an engine at the Birkenhead station, and drove off. He must have got down and turned the points at Tranmere; for he returned to the station at great speed; and running into an engine standing there, knocked it off the line. The fellow escaped!

Not satisfied with the management of the life-boat by those who control it, the seamen of Hartlepool have held a meeting and resolved to have a life-boat of their own. They were moved to this course by the great destruction of life during the past week.

Isabella Crosier, a gipsy, has murdered an infant, in Bishop Auckland Workhouse, by striking its head against the mantelpiece. It was at first believed that it was her own child; but it turns out that it belonged to a poor woman named Thomson, of Sunderland, who had hired the wretch to nurse it: Crosier stole it.

A Chancery suitor has died of starvation at Bealminster. William Waters had amassed considerable property, and at his death he bequeathed the bulk of it to his niece, Elizabeth Waters. Other relatives disputed the will, and the property got into Chancery. Elizabeth Waters retained possession of her uncle's house; in the course of years it became dreadfully dilapidated; Elizabeth sold nearly all the furniture to buy food; she occasionally got employment as a sempstress, but her poverty was very great. Recently, after she had not been seen for a week, she crawled to a neighbour's—she was dying of cold and hunger; and the food and fuel which were immediately provided came too late to save her.

Mr. Metcalf, a farmer near Dunlavin, was robbed of £105 by his daughter, a girl only fourteen years old, who fled with a young farm-labourer: they intended to go to America, but they were arrested at Maryborough. On the girl was £75 of the money. The labourer, and his mother, who had harboured the pair of lovers, have been committed for trial.

Extensive flour-mills at Ballyclough, near Limerick, have been destroyed by fire. They had been insured for £2,000 only a fortnight before.

## Court and Personal.

On Thursday last the play of the *Honeymoon*, and the farce of *The Camp at Chobham*, were performed before her Majesty and the Royal family, and an illustrious circle of guests; including the French Ambassador, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster, the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, Viscount Canning, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Walpole, and Major-General Wetherall. The whole of the visiting company left Windsor on Friday.

The Queen will open Parliament in person. The usual preparations for her Majesty's reception are being made at the House of Lords. On Monday, a Privy Council will be held at Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty will return to Windsor on Wednesday, the day after the opening of the session. The Court is expected to come to London for the season on Monday, February 18.

The Hon. Mr. Clive, M.P. for South Shropshire, who has been seriously ill for some time past, died on Friday afternoon at Shrewsbury.

The City Police have resolved to present their Commissioner, Daniel Whittle Harvey, Esq., with a piece of plate, as a testimonial to him for his late efforts in obtaining an increase of pay and for his general care of their interests.

The Gazette of Friday gives the names of the new Commissioners on the Sale and Transfer of Land. They are the Right Honourable Spencer Horatio Walpole; the Right Honourable Joseph Napier; Sir Alexander James Edmund Cockburn, Attorney-General; Sir Richard Bethell, Solicitor-General; T. E. Headlam, Esq., Q.C.; Vincent Scully, Esq., Q.C.; Robert Lowe, Esq., W. D. Lewis, Esq., Henry Drummond, Esq., John Evelyn Denison, Esq., Robert Wilson, Esq., and W. Strickland Cookson, Esq.

A second notice in the Gazette is to the effect, "that if intelligence be not received before the 31st of March next, of the officers and crews of her Majesty's ships 'Erebus' and 'Terror' being alive, the names of the officers will be removed from the Navy List, and they and the crews of those ships will be considered as having died in her Majesty's service." Their pay will cease on the day named; and persons qualified to claim pay and wages are instructed to apply to the Accountant-General of the Navy.

In a letter to the *Athenaeum*, Dr. Hincks states he does not now contemplate that speedy abandonment of his cuneiform investigations which he had done.

The proposed expedition for the exploration of Northern Australia, originated by the Royal Geographical Society, towards which £2,500 had been promised by Government, is to be undertaken entirely at the expense of the state, and on a much larger scale than was at first intended.



## Miscellaneous News.

At a Court of Common Council, on Thursday, a report was presented by the Committee appointed to ascertain the state and durability of Southwark Bridge. The Committee informed the Court that the proprietors of the bridge adhere to the price already asked—£300,000; and that, as the bridge must be purchased for the public, they might probably demand a higher sum. On the motion of Mr. Alderman Solomons, the report was referred back to the Committee by a majority of 33 to 26; renewing the order to ascertain the strength and durability of the bridge by professional inquiry, and to report the upshot to the Court.

A few weeks ago, some workmen employed in making some repairs in Euxton church, near Preston, discovered, concealed underneath the pulpit, a perfect still. The materials were removed to the parsonage, and kept there so secretly that it was only on Saturday night last that the Excise became acquainted with it. A search warrant was obtained, and the seizure made at the parsonage.

The question of juvenile reformation is making very satisfactory progress. Liverpool, which possesses a complete legion of juvenile Arabs in its streets and docks, is to urge the subject on the attention of the Government at a town's meeting during the present week. At Warrington, under the presidency of Mr. Holbrook Gaskell, a meeting has been held at which many important facts and arguments were adduced to show the necessity which existed for such reformatory institutions. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Thomas Wright (the prison philanthropist), Rev. T. Carter, chaplain of the Liverpool Gaol; and other gentlemen. The Middlesex magistrates, at their last meeting, adopted a series of important resolutions in favour of a county industrial school for juvenile offenders, of which the following are a portion:—

"That in all cases where the settlement of a child can be proved, the parish to which such child legally belongs be liable for the expense of maintenance; but the parents or parent to be liable to the parish for the whole or part of the same.

"That in all cases when, as at the present time, the expense of maintenance of children committed to prison is paid by the Government, the same liability should continue with respect to children sent to a county industrial school.

"That judges and magistrates should have powers granted them to send children under the age of fourteen years to a county industrial school instead of to a prison.

"That a bill to effect these objects should be introduced into Parliament next session."

Lord Robert Grosvenor undertook to bring the bill into Parliament; and he will do so with the unanimous consent of the bench.

The Christmas election for the new Asylum for Fatherless Orphans was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on the 16th inst. The chair was occupied by G. W. Alexander, Esq., in the absence of the Lord Mayor. The Chairman said that if anything would tend to convince him of the interest taken in the institution, it would be the large number of widows and friends of orphans who were anxious to enable children to partake of its benefit. He observed that at present the children were maintained in two houses at a considerable distance apart; it was desirable to have them in one establishment, and, for that purpose, they had purchased an estate, but did not deem it desirable to proceed further, not having the requisite funds.

Dr. Reed then said, that there had been a necessity felt for an alteration in the rule which confined the polling to three elections; but, in order to agree with their friends, he had to propose the following:—

"I. Since the expansion of this charity to embrace the whole period of infancy, it has been found necessary and desirable to give some limitation to the period of election. It is, therefore, proposed,—1st. That Rule 34 (confining the candidates to three elections) be wholly withdrawn, and that the following be adopted in its stead—that no candidate, whatever may be its age, can be permitted to remain more than three years on the lists, that it may have the advantage of six elections, and that the votes may be continued and accumulated for every such period for its benefit." (Loud cheers.)

"II. That these propositions be approved solely with respect to the next General Meeting, which shall have special notice to that effect, and with such meeting shall rest the power of accepting or rejecting them." (Cheers.)

Dr. Reed informed the meeting that the Board would offer no opposition. Mr. Edward Swaine thought he could not better show his satisfaction than by seconding the motion presented to the meeting. It met everything that was wanted. It was evident that if the elections were to go on and on, it would answer no good purpose. There must be some limit, and the limit now set was just at the right point. He had very great pleasure in seconding the resolutions. (Hear and cheers.) The motion having been put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. Mr. Alexander then declared the poll to be open, and the ordinary business having been transacted, the meeting dispersed.

Keighley, in Yorkshire, has, during the last week, been visited by Henry Vincent. On the evenings of Wednesday and Thursday the hall of the Mechanics' Institution was crowded with attentive and enraptured audiences, selected from almost every grade of society. The subject on the first evening was "The Progressive tendencies of the Times," with Joseph Craven Esq. in the chair. On the second evening: "The Material Development of Great Britain," and the duties devolved upon all classes of the community arising therefrom; when the chair was occupied by the Rev. J. Tattersfield. The lecturer's vivid portraiture, quick and racy humour, clear expositions of great truths, and many earnest appeals, made a deep, and we would hope, a lasting impression upon his hearers.

From the emigration returns for 1853, it appears that the actual number who left the ports of Great Britain last year were 318,680. Although this figure is much under that for 1852, the year of the great rush to Australia, it is still much higher than the average for the previous ten years, and must tend to exhibit at next census a stand-still or retrograde condition of

the population of these islands. We see that at New York 334,870 persons were landed, of whom, 284,639 were "aliens." The United States, therefore, has received the largest number of our "surplus" population.

The success of the Freehold Land Movement is one of the "great facts" of modern times. The industrious classes, for whose benefit they were chiefly designed, are beginning to appreciate the great advantages they afford, as a means of elevating their social and political condition. Seven years ago these societies were unknown, and now almost every town has one, while in the metropolis every day adds to the number. The three great societies are making rapid strides. The "National," established about five years ago, has issued 70,000 shares; the "Conservative," established in 1852, issued during the first quarter 1,500, and held twenty-one meetings in different parts of the kingdom; while the "Free Trade," issued upwards of 2,000 shares between the 15th of August (the day of its formation) and the 22nd of December, and held but six meetings, the whole of them in London. This society recognises no political party; in fact the political object of this society seems almost lost sight of.

The Barnacre estate, late the property of the Duke of Hamilton, has been purchased by Mr. Alderman Thompson, for £98,000. The Duke of Hamilton has bought Lord Rossmore's property in the isle of Arran, for £51,000.

A Spurious "gold-dust," difficult of detection, is occasionally offered for sale to the London bullion-dealers. It consists of fragments of some hard kind of earth, covered with gold by the electrotype process. It is only detected by its friability and want of weight.

## Literature.

*Life and Times of Madame De Stael.* By MARIA NORRIS. London: D. Bogue, Fleet-street.

A LIFE of Madame de Stael—"the most distinguished woman of her time," as Goethe called her—written by a genial and appreciative nature, full of womanly and literary sympathies, cannot fail to be a piece of pleasing and exciting reading. We do not wonder at the enthusiasm with which Miss Norris has studied and delineated the character of this fascinating and large-minded woman, and traced that remarkable career which, though variously chequered and shaded, was more than anything else a continued brilliant triumph. We admire the instincts, honour the feeling, and value the intelligence and faithful sincerity, with which her task has been taken up and fulfilled.

We are sensible of various literary and other defects in Miss Norris's work; but they are only slight impediments to the enjoyment of an eloquent and warm-hearted book. Perhaps the general history of Madame de Stael's times is too largely introduced; and there are comments which many may consider either unnecessary or only partially true; and, again, there are several judgments from which dissent might properly enough be recorded. But such has been the conscientiousness with which the author has examined the numerous sources of information and collected her materials; so deeply has she felt her subject and made it her own; and so thoughtfully and even powerfully has she written her memoir; that one is little disposed to insist on the small criticisms with which it would be possible to assail some parts of a volume, which proceeds from a lady who frankly admits that she is "young, ignorant, and inexperienced." It is a pleasanter office to give a cordial welcome, as we do, to a new author, who promises, by continued culture and care, to add an honourable name to the selectest company of the female writers, who occupy a high and characteristically noteworthy place in contemporary literature. It is no small achievement to have deserved that it should be said—and it is no mean praise to say—that this "Life" makes us feel that we have a real and faithful portrait of "the spiritual Amazon" (as Jean Paul called "the de Stael"), of whom it was said by Schiller, that "the clearness, decidedness, and rich vivacity of her nature could not but affect one favourably"—that there was "no adventitious, false, pathological speck in her"—and that "she represented French culture in its purity, and under its most interesting aspect."

Perhaps we cannot better exemplify the use Miss Norris has made of her materials, and the manner in which she has written, than by extracting a passage founded on Madame de Stael's personal narrative, and containing an

incident with which many of our readers will be familiar in Madame's own words.

## FLYING FROM BONAPARTE.

Although the wonderful conquests of Bonaparte had made her road from Coppet to London embrace the traversing of half the continent, she felt that every step brought her nearer to a land of freedom. She had arranged a rendezvous with Monsieur Schlegel, (who had generously offered to be her conductor) at a farm house just beyond Berne; here, too, she parted from the baron, who returned to Coppet to look after her interests there, and to obtain passports which would enable her to travel through Austria. This was a delicate undertaking; because if they were refused, her plans were known and further escape made impossible. In this difficulty the young man threw himself on the generosity of Monsieur de Schraut, the Austrian minister, who readily gave him the passports he required. Monsieur de Stael had seen his mothers to completely deserted by those who owed their life and fortune to her efforts, that this kindness from a stranger touched him very deeply. He had also the satisfaction of sending his brother to Vienna with servants and a travelling carriage a few days after his mother's flight; and it was only on this second departure that our wise friend the prefect began to suspect mischief. So true is it that the greatest sages are sometimes at fault! He might have saved his credit if he had been kindly enough to favour the supposition that he winked at the escape, but as matters stand, we are compelled to conclude that his boast of knowing all that went on at Coppet was a little premature, and that this Swiss Machiavel was really and truly deceived.

When her son left her, Madame de Stael says she felt inclined to exclaim, in imitation of Lord William Russell, "The bitterness of death is passed!" but with the necessity for action her courage revived, and hope, so long an unknown guest, began to whisper sweetly, that the days of her mourning were ended. In this frame of mind she approached the Tyrol, for whose inhabitants she felt the respect invariably inspired by a people who are, or who long to be, free.

At Inspruck she stopped a few hours to refresh, and as it was not prudent to seem too anxious about proceeding, she stayed to inspect the tomb of the great Maximilian; thence she hurried to Salzburg, whence she could easily reach the Austrian frontier. The most redoubtable part of her journey, after the few miles just beyond Coppet, lay in the passage from Bavaria into Austria, which road she had yet to traverse, and where she feared her anxious friend, the prefect, might have preceded her coming by a courier, who would politely insist on her return to Geneva. But her health was so cruelly shattered, that not all her eagerness for liberty could conquer her longing for physical repose; she was compelled to go very gently, and frequently to arrest her progress altogether.

As if nothing might be wanted to render this flight difficult, on entering the inn at Salzburg, a man approached Monsieur Schlegel, and told him in German, that a French courier, inquiring after a carriage from Inspruck, containing a lady and a young girl, had been at Salzburg a few hours before, and had engaged to call again for news of any such arrival. This terrible announcement deprived Madame de Stael of her little strength. Meantime, Schlegel put fresh questions to his host, and the replies removed her misfortune beyond the reach of doubt. The courier was French indubitably. He came from Munich. He had been to the Austrian frontier in search of the lady, and not having found her had promised to return to inquire for her. He was travelling post, and would, no doubt, arrive very shortly.

In this emergency Madame de Stael took a sudden resolution to leave her daughter and Monsieur Schlegel at the inn, together with the carriage and servants, and to set out alone on foot, entering the first house where she saw a promising physiognomy, and begging shelter and rest. Monsieur Schlegel engaged to conduct Mademoiselle de Stael into Austria; and the poor persecuted mother, almost exhausted by fear and trouble, could think of no better plan than to follow them, as her strength served, on foot, in the disguise of a peasant woman.

She was endeavouring to master the chances of such a course, when the awful courier himself burst into the room, and turned out to be none other than Monsieur Rocca, who, after one day's journey, had been forced to return to Geneva, to wind up his affairs there. With a delightful impudence at which one cannot but smile, he had seconded his haste to rejoin his wife, by giving out that he was a French courier going after a lady, whom he described. The terror and respect inspired by his assumed office and errand, procured him the quickest horses and sure relays at every post. He had thus gone boldly as far as the Austrian frontier, and had assured himself that no evil messenger had preceded her on the road. He now mounted the box of the carriage to conduct her to Vienna, and much relieved by his assurance that she had nothing to fear, Madame de Stael found her "cruel terror changed into a very sweet feeling of security and gratitude."

It may not be uninteresting to add a brief passage, in which the author describes—

## HOW MADAME DE STAEL IMPRESSED OTHERS.

No doubt it would have been better for Madame de Stael, had she possessed more of her mother's carefulness about trifles; but she was too sincere to affect anything she did not feel; she acted out whatever her nature prompted; and thus, while she committed no great error, she often shocked people who were accustomed to a stereotyped course of thought, speech, and action, and who thought originality a kind of crime, especially in woman; who, according to such, was intended to be merely a gentle reflector of whatever is weak and pretty in the other sex.

A creature so full of vitality as Madame de Stael, is sure to be called by the world of common-place people a very "odd" woman; they rarely feel deeply, and cannot understand an enthusiastic temperament which flings unnecessary life and energy into every action of existence, which anticipates every grief, and decks every pleasure with colours of unearthly brightness. These passionate natures, dowered with force in both love and hatred, are too often harshly judged by a world that little comprehends them.

No doubt they would live more peacefully if their life flowed in a stiller current; but it is a necessity of their nature that gives it somewhat of the character's rush and fall; they pay the penalty, however, which is exacted of all who are below or above the common standard; they are admired, feared, hated, as the humour of society goes, but seldom loved beyond the precincts of



the sweet home circle, whose joy, like that of Christ, the world cannot give or take away.

Madame de Staël, however, must by this time have been fully convinced of the wisdom of her mother's idea—that little things are of importance, and that great ones often hang upon them; had she better learned this lesson she might have been spared some bitter hours. But the world places *les bienséances* above the virtues, and in showing her contempt for this shallow judgment, perhaps Madame de Staël went farther than she needed, and missed some friends she might have made.

The tone of this passage will represent the general feeling with which the phases of Madame de Staël's character are discussed; and a tolerably complete impression of the author's view of her nature, may be gained by associating it with the following account of her—

#### PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS.

She belonged truly to the south and east by her passionate nature, extreme mobility, and the delicacy of her organs. The fragrance of a rose, a fair sky, an elegant dance, a beautiful face, sufficed at any moment to give her pleasure; even when she records the banishment of Madame Recamier, she cannot help calling her "my beautiful friend;" and during her flight in Russia, she does not forego the inspection of objects of loveliness, or forget to chronicle her picturesque impressions. This force of the sensuous pleasures is the dower of the southern and eastern nations.

On the other hand she had a strong reflective nature, and a power of analyzing her mental operations which belongs to the graver northern countries; from this mingling of aptitudes and faculties we believe much of her fascinating power as a writer to spring, and dare venture to say that the more her works are studied the clearer this will appear. These elements of her character form her hero and heroine in "Corinne;" Oswald is her reflective, melancholy, northern element; Corinne the passionate, changeable, eloquent child of the south, reassured by a word or a look, but as easily tormented. Who can study the character of Madame de Staël, and fail to acknowledge the truth of this resemblance.

We intended to point out very respectfully, a certain slashing exaggerated way that Miss Norris has, when expressing a casual opinion; and a habit of implying grave historical judgments in mere passing remarks. For instance, she says, that if Necker had been "a man of overweening ambition, he might have had a Cromwell's place," which seems to us to be an absurd over-estimate of Necker, and to imply a shallow judgment of Cromwell. And again, when she speaks of "the Alpine prison in which the cruel Toussaint L'Ouverture expiated his crimes," we would ask, is this a well-considered and deliberate sentence on Toussaint?—or a popular one, made to serve a rhetorical effect?

We purposely refrain, as we have intimated, from pursuing such criticisms; and conclude by recommending our readers to see this very agreeable book for themselves.

*Memoirs of an Ex-Capuchin; or Scenes of Modern Monastic Life.* By GIROLAMO VOLPE, a Converted Priest. London: Partridge and Oakley.

THE person whose "Memoirs" are contained in this volume is Signor Vincenzo Crespi, who, instead of publishing a narrative by his own hand, which might prove wanting in "impartiality and unbiassed judgment," has narrated the events of his monastic life to Signor Volpe, by whom they have been arranged and cast into the form they bear in this book. The declared objects of the publication are, to advance the cause of religious truth, and to communicate information respecting the Capuchins and their institutions. We cannot agree with Signor Volpe, that his friend's has been an "extraordinary life;" but any life of "a friar among friars," if intelligently told, must have novel phases and numerous points of interest to English and Protestant readers. And Sig. Volpe has so told the story of Sig. Crespi, that it cannot fail to secure and reward the attention of whoever takes the book into perusal, both by making the system of the Capuchins and their general character more familiarly known, and by suggesting thoughts respecting the relations of these orders, and their uses, to the Church of Rome. It is true it does not greatly increase the range or the amount of our knowledge, but it is a picture quite worth looking at, a tale quite worth the hearing. The impression it makes is, that the life of friars, at the best, is so contrary to the instincts and moral necessities of human nature, as to become a series of compromises, contemptible pettinesses, and complicated hypocrisies; and that, in most cases, it degenerates into a gross, selfish, im-

moral *personal* life, again degraded by the mutual suspicions, jealousies, and quarrels, in which the hideous parody which is all they know of *social* life continually abounds.

Sig. Volpe's book is excellently written; but we presume that its elegant and highly-finished English dress is due to some *translator*. If so, he has been singularly fortunate in finding one who can give to a version all the idiomatic expressiveness of an original composition. Our readers may be glad to see the work exemplified in an extract:—

#### POVERTY AND FASTING AMONG THE CAPUCHINS.

"The Capuchins take the vow of poverty. I will not dwell long upon the strictness with which they observe it. . . . Numerous examples might be adduced of covetousness in friars. One friar of my acquaintance became a thief in consequence of yielding to avaricious desires. He was a lay brother, and upon him devolved the duty of asking alms. This is a tax upon the people levied by the convents, and collected by the lay brethren. They solicit all sorts of edibles, wool for clothing, and miscellaneous matters of every description that can be required in monastic life. The deluded populace give freely; some from pious motives, and some from worldly considerations. The women give most largely, for they are more deeply impressed with the venerable appearance of the friars, and are more easily excited by the presence of these saintly men. The lay brother in question, went about on one occasion begging for oil. He was not very successful. He received but one barrelful, which was not more than a third of the usual quantity. The monks complained bitterly, but the lamentations of the alms-seeker were the londest of all. He declared that piety was vastly on the decline; that religion was greatly neglected; that men had no longer the fear of God before their eyes; that Christian charity had abandoned the heart, not only of the men, but of the women, who were no longer inclined to bestow eleemosynary gifts on the friars. . . . These complaints were re-echoed by all. . . . This lamentation over modern avarice . . . was sincere and issued from their hearts; wrung from them by the dread of the failure of future supplies. Their dire forebodings had their origin in the paucity of oil obtained by begging. A benefactor of the convent came one day to visit the friars. The gratitude of the friars is most intense, on the principle that 'gratitude is thankfulness for favours expected. Most welcome are the visits of those who are liberal to the convents. The monks entreat them, with the utmost solicitude, to stay and share their repast. . . . Every face is turned towards them clad in smiles of welcome. Yes, indeed, the friars are hospitable—towards benefactors. Their gratitude is fervent—towards benefactors. Most warmly do they receive—their benefactors! The benefactors, on their part, will never cease to befriend the friars. The friars are so devout, evince so much pleasure in being favoured with their society. The friars are so different from ungrateful men of the world, by whom benefits are so soon forgotten. To recommend: a benefactor of the Convent of S— came to visit his friends, the friars. When the first salutations were over, they began to speak of the stores obtained by begging—no unusual topic of conversation on such occasions. The gentleman remarked, that they had good reason to be satisfied with the abundant stores obtained that year, and instanced the large quantity of oil which he had seen appropriated to their use. His remarks excited astonishment; investigation followed; and it was clearly proved that the lay brother had sold the oil for his own profit. He was examined and committed to prison, but he was shortly after released. Justice required that he should be delivered over to the civil authorities; but to this the monks would not submit. No; the habit of St. Francis would be dishonoured, therefore the friars preferred keeping the matter in their own hands. A friar may be a rogue, a thief, a manslayer, a fornicator, a gambler, a deceiver; he may have imbed his hands in every crime, yet Christian charity requires the concealment of them all. They must not be revealed, for the order would be disgraced; the convent would cease to be respected; the friars would be less venerated, perhaps even despised. From politic motives the most shameful crimes are concealed. . . . Venial failings are visited most rigorously, while real guilt escapes notice, or is forgiven."

"'Poor friars,' say the people, and more especially the softer sex, 'what heavy penances they perform! They pray incessantly for the remission of our sins. They mortify their appetites—they do penance—they fast continually for our sins. They fast? Indeed they do but little of that. They mortify their bodies? Indeed, that is just what they never do. . . . No, these humble men, these alms-receiving Sybarites, these beggars that live upon charity, well know how, without riches, without revenues, to obtain and prize equally with yourselves, the delicacies of the table, which are generally believed to be the exclusive privilege of wealth. These Capuchins, of squalid appearance, clothed in serge, with shaven heads and bare feet, presenting the very type of humility and self-renunciation, enjoy the luxuries of life with a prodigality unknown to you. . . . The poor friars have, with one exception, no enjoyment in the things of the world. They have renounced all pleasures except one. Their only worldly comfort is good cheer. Of this they partake freely, and who would say them nay? Surely one solitary indulgence may be permitted them.\* The friars have three carnivals in the year, of two or three weeks duration each. These are the only periods in which they can recruit their wasted strength to enable them to support the mortifications of the rest of the year. During these few weeks they have seven courses served at dinner, all substantial and choice dishes, the most dainty morsels that can be provided. At supper they have five courses. By that hour, in spite of their plentiful dinner, they have regained their appetites, and their digestion is again most active. These courses are as substantial as those of the dinner, and are despatched with equal facility by these men of iron frame and tranquil conscience. No compunctious visitings disturb the sleep or diminish the appetites of the friars. They enjoy a blessed serenity of mind, and neither remorse nor disquietude of any kind ever mars their digestive functions. . . . Lent

\* The friars have a proverb, *In questo mondo, non affamo altro che quello che possiamo masticare.* We can call nothing our own in this world, but what we have swallowed.

has arrived! Well, you must fast, you must mortify the flesh; but you must not die of inanition. A good table is necessary, or you will suffer too much from contrast with the past few weeks. You need double the supply that the secular orders do when they fast, for your digestion is twice as active as theirs. Supper is now a sadly scanty meal. It consists simply of fish, bread, wine and fruit. Such fare is scarcely better than starvation! A miserable fish! Not miserable as to quantity or quality, but because it is the solitary dish during the forty days of Lent, always excepting bread and wine *ad libitum*. Fortunately the friars are wise and provident. The slender supper is foreseen and provided against at dinner, which consists of four dishes. The bottle of good wine is valuable now; or they would be overcome with weakness. . . . In this way do the Holy Capuchin fathers 'mortify their fleshly lusts.'"

*The Globe Prepared for Man: a Guide to Geology.* By the Author of "The Observing Eye; or, Letters on Natural History." London: W. J. Adams, 69, Fleet-street.

This little volume, compiled with great intelligence and care, from the best and latest authorities, and written in a simple and pleasing manner, and in a religious spirit, forms an acceptable and useful popular manual of geology, which may especially be commended to young people. It is plentifully illustrated with woodcuts, and has a coloured engraving as a frontispiece. As a companion to a cabinet of fossils, it would be found very useful by a young student.

*The Ansyrech and Ismaelech; a Visit to the Secret Sects of Northern Syria.* By the Rev. SAMUEL LYDE, B.A. London: Hurst and Blackett.

The author, a clergyman of "the Anglican Church," visited Syria in ill-health during the winter of 1850-51. Attracted to it as a sphere of labour suitable to his health, he determined on entering on a mission to the Ansyrech, a people numerous and important, but sunk in ignorance and misery for ages past, through the profession of "a secret and effete religion." A narrative of personal experiences—an account of the country and condition of the people—a report on their religious state specially, made to Dr. Gobat, the Bishop of Jerusalem—and proposals for the establishment of Schools, for the support and education of the Ansyrech youth—these matters form the contents of the volume. For the sake of its purpose we refrain from detailed adverse criticism; although the book is a weak one, and not merely adds nothing of importance to our knowledge of Northern Syria and its tribes, but is clearly incorrect in several points, as well as generally confused in the information collected and made use of.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

Cathedral Commissions. Beresford & Galt.  
The Traveller's Library. Longman, Brown, & Co.  
The Common Sense of Cholera. J. Churchill.  
A Brief History of the Egg Controversy. Hall & Co.  
A Portraiture of Mormonism. W. Strange.  
The True, the Beautiful, and the Good. T. & T. Clark.  
A Defence of the Eclipse of Faith. Longman, Brown, & Co.  
Smith's Sacred Annals. Vols. I and II.  
The Confessor. Clarke, Beeton, & Co.  
The Sunshine of Greystone. Binns & Goodwin.  
Word Pictures from the Bible. Longman, Brown, & Co.  
Elements of Jurisprudence. Walton & Maberly.  
Dudgeon's Lectures on Homoeopathy. H. Turner.  
Lady Rachel Russell. Vols. I and II. Longman, Brown, & Co.

#### Literary Miscellany.

DISSENTERS AND THE GOVERNMENT IN 1807.—We raised a subscription the very day of the dissolution for the management of the press, and the distribution of hand-bills. The sum was small, not exceeding six hundred pounds; and more than a third was wasted before any committee of management was organized. In the meanwhile, the elections went much against us. Even the Dissenters, upon whom, in a contest with the Crown, the Whigs must always mainly rely, were alarmed at the report of our indulgences to Roman Catholics, and, from prejudice against them and a misconception of the question, joined in some places with the cry of intolerance in favour of Court and High-Church candidates against the friends of religious liberty. The management of our press fell into the hands of Mr. Brougham. With that active and able man I had become acquainted, through Mr. Allen, in 1805. At the formation of Lord Grenville's Ministry, he had written at my suggestion a pamphlet called "The State of the Nation." He subsequently accompanied Lord Rosslyn and Lord St. Vincent to Lisbon. His early connexion with the Abolitionists had familiarized him with the means of circulating political papers, and given him some weight with those best qualified to co-operate in such an undertaking. His extensive knowledge and extraordinary readiness, his assiduity and habits of composition, enabled him to correct some articles, and to furnish a prodigious number himself. With partial and scanty assistance from Mr. Allen, myself, and two or three more, he in the course of ten days filled every bookseller's shop with pamphlets, most London newspapers, and all country ones without exception, with paragraphs, and supplied a large portion of the boroughs throughout the kingdom with hand-bills adapted to the local interests of the candidates, and all tending to enforce



the principles, vindicate the conduct, elucidate the measures, or expose the adversaries of the Whigs. Our appeals were chiefly directed to the Dissenters. We succeeded in allaying their suspicions, and reconciling them to their natural friends so well, that during the latter elections they were at least neutral, and in many instances zealous supporters of the Whig candidates. The elections, however, were on the whole unfavourable to Opposition.—*Lord Holland's Memoirs of the Whig Party*, Vol. 2.

**THE MARRIAGE OF GEORGE IV.**—Persons most intimate at Carlton House, as well as many casual but attentive observers, have always assured me that the Prince of Wales was throughout the transactions of 1795, and up to the very day of its celebration, averse to the marriage. His behaviour even at that ceremony, as well as the significant looks and whispers of some of his household and attendants, confirmed the suspicion. He confessed to the Duke of Bedford, who attended, that he had swallowed several glasses of brandy to enable him to go through the ceremony; and the Duke observed, in relating the fact, that he had taken so many, that it had nearly disqualified him from doing so: he (the Duke) could scarcely support him from falling. [To which statement is appended the following note:—] Extract of a letter from John, Duke of Bedford, dated Woburn Abbey, August 8, 1836:—"My brother was one of the two unmarried Dukes who supported the Prince at the ceremony, and he had need of his support; for my brother told me the Prince was so drunk that he could scarcely support him from falling. He told my brother he had drunk several glasses of brandy to enable him to go through the ceremony. There is no doubt but it was a compulsory marriage.—*Ibid.*

**QUEEN CAROLINE.**—And yet, whatever may be thought of the treatment to which she was exposed on her arrival in England, or of the malignity, and possibly the falsehood, of some of the charges subsequently brought against her, or of the somewhat vindictive persecution of her when Queen—she was at best a strange woman, and a very sorry and uninteresting heroine. She had, they say, some talent, some pleasantry, some good-humour, and great spirit and courage. But she was utterly destitute of all female delicacy, and exhibited in the whole course of the transactions relating to herself very little feeling for anybody, and very little regard for honour or truth, or even for the interests of those who were devoted to her, whether the people in the aggregate, or the individuals who enthusiastically espoused her cause. She avowed her dislike of many; she scarcely concealed her contempt for all. In short, to speak plainly, if not mad, she was a very worthless woman.—*Ibid.*

### Gleanings.

A flash of lightning is supposed to have lighted some gas which was escaping from a pipe in a street at Liverpool last week!

A great many grouse have been killed on the Stanhope and Tyne Railway, by the electric telegraph wires, as many as nine having been picked up in one place, some with their wings and others with their heads cut off by the wires.

In a lecture delivered at Dudley last week Mr. S. H. Blackwell, F.G.S., estimated the present annual production of iron in this country at 3,000,000 tons.

The effects of foul air, so often fatal to medical men, have shown themselves on Dr. Sutherland and Dr. Waller Lewis, who are both indisposed from inhaling the gases arising from decaying corpses in vaults visited in the execution of official duties.

Three workmen and their wives have been fined twenty-three crowns each at Manmoe, in Sweden, for having abjured the religion of the State and become Mormons.

Salutes cost the country annually £26,000! Bishops and Ambassadors are thus honoured (?)

What kind of men do women like best? Why, a husband-man.

James London, who died in Great Bentley a few days since, in his 100th year, preserved to the last a beautiful head of hair of raven blackness.

Mr. Laslett, M.P. for Worcester, has intimated his intention to devote £50 per week to the relief of the destitute poor of that city during the severe winter.

It is intended at one of the balls of the Tuileries next month, to get up two grand quadrilles in character. One, directed by the Empress, is to be composed of persons representing the guards and vivandières of the time of Louis XV.; and the other, directed by the Princess Mathilda, of the mousquetaires and flower-girls of the time of Louis XIV.

The man who attempted to look into the future had the door slammed in his face.

Mr. Waldo, a friend of the inventor of the sewing machine, stated before the Society of Arts on Wednesday, that the sails of the Great Republic spreading 28,000 yards of a suit, had been done in six days with the aid of the machine by hands, that without it would have taken 1,200 days for the same work.

A Frenchman has at last succeeded in discovering the long sought-for entrance into the Sphinx. The entrance leads into beautiful marble rooms, which are supposed to be connected by subterranean passages with similar chambers in the adjacent pyramid.

The Post-office and the whole of the offices of the Times, are arranged with cannel-gas, purified on the premises, and consumed under Mr. Leslie's patent, with sanitary and economic results. The Post-office is now consuming 125,000 cubic feet less per week than before the alteration.

"Why, Charley," said a Yankee to a negro preacher, "you can't even tell who made the monkey." "Oh, yes, I can, massa." "Well, who made the monkey?" "Why, massa, the same one made the monkey that made you."

A Connecticut minister having walked through a village churchyard, and observed the indiscriminate praises bestowed upon the dead, wrote upon the gate-posts the following words:—"Here lie the dead, and here the living *do*."

If any one entertains the remotest doubt of this free and happy land being a great country, let him for ever keep silence after perusing the subjoined names of "fellow citizens," who voted at the recent election in Nebraska for a delegate to Congress. They are copied from the poll-book:—"Jane-e-tah-quah-growl, O-si-o-men-o-men-he, Mah-men-wan-e-kah, Pe-sha-hah-me-quah, Muh-at-tah-noh-noh-no-to, Kah-ku-noh-ne-we-to-to."—*American Paper.*

The zinc ship of Nantes has just returned from a successful voyage to Rio, and has proved an excellent sea-boat. The captain states a fact that her compasses had never been affected, a thing which has frequently happened on board iron-built vessels, and by which the most fearful accidents have been caused.

In a lecture on China, delivered at Bolton the other day, Dr. Bowring said it had been calculated, that if all the bricks, stones, and masonry in Great Britain were gathered together, they would not furnish materials enough for a work such as the great wall of China; and that all the buildings in London put together would not have made the towers and turrets which adorn it.

A New Orleans paper tells us of a man who has worn out four pairs of boots in two months, all in trying to collect the money to pay for them! Really these are "times to try men's soles."

American papers bring us report of a new MS. series of Shaksperian discoveries. One Mr. Quincy, of Boston, asserts that his copy of the fourth folio of the dramas contains four hundred manuscript emendations. They are said to be by an unknown hand, and that they occur with more or less frequency through sixteen of the plays. Many of them coincide with the corrections found in Mr. Collier's folio.

There will be in 1854 four eclipses, two of the moon and two of the sun. Only one of these, of the moon, which will take place on the 4th of November, and will be partial, can be seen at Paris. The two eclipses of the sun will be invisible at Paris. From the present time, to the end of the century, the number of eclipses of the sun visible at Paris will be twenty-two.

Campbell, the poet, was one day so smitten by a beautiful child in St. James's Park, that he put an advertisement in the newspaper to discover its residence, the result of which was very ludicrous, for some wags of the Hook and Co. clique, aware of the circumstances, answered the appeal, and, not knowing what address to give, took the last name in the directory, Z—, No. —, Sloane Street. Thither Campbell hurried the next afternoon, in full dress, and was shown up to the drawing-room, where he found a middle-aged lady waiting to learn his errand. It was not long in being explained, and the indignant Miss Z—, on being asked to bring in her lovely offspring to gratify the longing of the poet, rushed to the bell, and rang violently for her servant to show the insolent stranger to the door.—*Autobiography of William Jordan.*

Fanny Fern thus sketches the "model lady":—"She puts her children out to nurse, and tends to lapdogs, lies in bed till noon—wears paper-soled shoes, and pinches her waist—gives the piano fits, and forgets to pay her milliner—cuts the poor relations, and goes to church when she has a new bonnet—turns the cold shoulder to her husband, and flirts with his friend—never saw a thimble—don't know a darning needle from a crow bar—wonders where puddings grow—eats ham and eggs in private, and dines on a pigeon's leg in public—runs mad first after the latest new fashion—doats on Byron—adores any man who grins behind a moustache, &c.—and when asked the age of her youngest child, replies, 'Don't know, indeed; ask Betty.'—*Fanny Fern.*

### BIRTHS.

January 17th, the wife of the Rev. A. Young, Shepton Mallet, of a daughter.

January 18th, at Walthamstow, the wife of the Rev. S. S. England, of a daughter.

January 20th, at 6, Vigo-street, Mrs. FREDERICK BIDGOOD, of a son.

January 21st, the wife of Mr. F. A. MIAL, of Spencer-street, Liverpool, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

Recently, at Newport, Indiana, North America, Mr. JAMES MACK, eldest son of the late Rev. JOHN MACK, of Clifton, Northamptonshire, to Miss ANGELINA BALDWIN.

January 14th, by license, at Alfrede College Chapel, by the Rev. W. Scott, Mr. THOMAS WATSON, of Bradford, to BENIGNA, eldest daughter of Mr. J. RILEY, of Benton Park, Rawden.

January 14th, at Horton-lane chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. Jonathan Glyde, Mr. JOHN WOODHEAD, of Mill-street, to ZILLAH, daughter of Mr. JOHN PENKETT, retired Inland Revenue Officer.

January 17th, at Mulberry-street chapel, Liverpool, by the Rev. John Hughes, the Rev. JOHN EVANS, Llansantffraid, to HANNAH, youngest daughter of the late Mr. ROBERT WILLIAMS, Porthland, Conway.

January 19th, at the Baptist chapel, Oswestry, Salop, by the Rev. D. Crumpton, minister of the place, THOMAS HAWLEY, Esq., of Detroit, Michigan, North America, but formerly of Cause Castle, Shropshire, to Miss HOLBROOK, of Black Gate House, Oswestry.

January 19th, at Hanover chapel, Bognor, Sussex, by the Rev. David Richardson, Mr. EDWARD ALFRED RICHARD WILLIAMSON, to Miss MARY ANN RICHARDSON, only daughter of the Rev. DAVID RICHARDSON, all of Bognor.

### DEATHS.

January 6th, at Chardleigh, near Chard, much regretted by a large circle of acquaintance, SAMUEL BROWN Esq., aged 64. Mr. Brown was the proprietor and occupier of an extensive woollen and cloth manufactory here, in which a great many hands are daily employed. He was an ardent yet consistent supporter of the principles of Nonconformity, but, nevertheless, allowed others the right of judging for themselves. For nearly forty years he had been a faithful and devoted member of the Baptist church, and for nearly the same period had ably and consistently fulfilled the office of deacon of the same place of worship. On Saturday last, at his funeral, the inhabitants generally testified their respect for the memory of the deceased by either partially or entirely closing their shops. The funeral procession to the burial-ground belonging to the chapel was followed by nearly 200 persons. Funeral sermons were preached at both Baptist and Independent chapels, on Sunday last, from John xvi. 1, 2, 3,—a text selected by the deceased gentleman for the purpose previous to his death.

January 7th, at Skibbereen, in the 73rd year of his age, and 46th

of his ministry, the Rev. JOHN WAUGH, father of the Rev. James Waugh, Missionary to Australia.

January 12th, the wife of Marshal COUNT RADETSKY.

January 12th, Mr. JOSEPH TAUMAN, of the Park, Nottingham, aged 51 years. On the Thursday previous, ANN, eldest daughter of the above, aged 24 years.

January 14th, at Marseilles, CHARLES ROBERT, eldest son of Sir CHARLES MORGAN, Bart, of Tredegar-park, Monmouthshire, aged 25 years.

January 14th, SARAH, the wife of RICHARD TOWNSEND, Esq., of Broadway, Worcestershire. For nearly fifty years she was a member of the Independent Church in that village.

January 15th, aged two years and a half, ALICE EVELYN, the dear child of MARTIN F. TUPPER, Esq., of Albury.

January 16th, at Wellington-street, Islington, of pulmonary consumption, MARGARET, only surviving daughter of the Rev. Wm. CAMPBELL, late of Bangalore.

January 16th, at the Lodge, Trickenham, THOMAS MORTON, Esq., aged 92.

January 16, at Streatham-common, MARY ANN, the daughter of Mr. Alderman MUGGERIDGE.

January 16th, at the residence of her cousin, Mr. John B. Best, Sherbourne, Miss SARAH BIRD BUTLER, only daughter of the late Mr. THOMAS BUTLER, of Poole, Dorset.

January 16th, Mr. THOMAS SLATER, junr., of Stonefield-street, Islington, and Bank of England.

January 16th, at Camelford, in the 69th year of his age, Mr. ROBERT PEARSE.

January 16th, Miss LUCY MATILDA, second daughter of the late Mr. RICHARD WRIGHT, surgeon, of Rotherhithe.

January 17th, at 10, Newgate-street, SUSANNA, eldest daughter of the late Mr. FRANCIS BROOME.

January 18th, at Duke-street, Manchester-square, FRANCIS, JAMES, the third son of Mr. JAMES BENHAM, aged 9 years.

January 18th, aged 24, ELEANOR JANE, beloved wife of Mr. F. JEFFERIES, High-street, Camden-town, and second daughter of Mr. W. CHRISTOPHER, Thetford, Norfolk.

January 18th, after a short illness, sincerely and deservedly lamented by his sorrowing widow and surviving family, Mr. WILLIAM BAILEY, of King-street, Covent-garden, in the 74th year of his age. He had been a consistent and devout member of the Baptist Church, in Eagle-street, London, for forty-three years, and a faithful and honourable deacon of the same thirty-two years. He was for many years the Secretary to the Particular Baptist Fund. His end was peace.

January 18th, after a few hours' illness, at the residence of her son-in-law, J. B. FRIEND, Esq., Sussex-square, Hyde-park, ELIZABETH, relict of RICHARD HOTHAM PIGEON, Esq., late Treasurer of Christ's Hospital, in the 61st year of his age.

January 19th, at Burnham, Essex, Mrs. GARRINGTON, wife of Mr. JOHN GARRINGTON, in her 71st year.

January 20th, in her 60 year, Mrs. PUSZER, Devonshire-street, Sheffield.

January 20th, Mr. SAMUEL WATSON, of No. 12, Bonnerie-street, Fleet-street, and Chestow-cottage, Camberwell, New-road, in the 76th year of his age.

January 20th, at J. J. Peel's Esq., Shrewsbury, of bronchitis and pleurisy, the Hon. R. H. CLIVE, M.P., aged 65.

January 21st, at Loughton, Essex, MARIA, daughter of Sir GEORGE and LADY CARROLL, in the 28th year of her age.

January 21st at Crediton, Devon, ALICE MARY, the daughter of Mr. W. C. SKULLY, aged one year.

### Money Market & Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

THE warlike news from Russia, during the last few days has produced the expected result upon the money market, although, it may be remarked that the excitement has not amounted to a panic. On Saturday prices were pretty steady, but the report that the Czar has unconditionally rejected the propositions of the Vienna conference, that he will admit of no intervention in the quarrel between himself and the Porte, and that he will only treat with the Porte direct on the basis of demands originally made by the Prince Menchikoff, caused a rapid fall. Consols leaving off  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent below the morning quotations. On Monday the downward tendency continued and was aggravated by the decline of  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent in the Paris Bourse. The Consols left off at  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent lower than Saturday. To-day there was a partial re-action which was not maintained.

The intelligence supplied by the second editions of the morning papers that the Czar has instructed his ambassador to demand his passport if we intend to take part with Turkey, produced a heavy fall in the Funds; for, after rallying to 90 $\frac{1}{2}$  for money, Consols have gone down to 89 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 89 $\frac{3}{4}$  for both present transfer and the 15th of February. Bank stock is one per cent lower, bargains are being made to-day at 215, 216. India Bonds continue steady at par, to 4 prem.; but Exchequer Bills are scarcely so firm at 6s. to 9s. prem. Money remains very easy in the Consol market at present, and has been barely worth 3 per cent.

The arrivals of specie during the week have been large—namely, £640,000, of which one-half was silver. The exports are estimated at nearly £400,000, of which about one-third was silver.

The Foreign Securities have, during the past week, experienced a fall of from 1 to 2 per cent., and are not unlikely to go still worse. There is nothing doing in them, and sales would be somewhat difficult, unless at a greater fall. To-day the fall has been heavy in all foreign securities. Russia Bonds, which were dealt in at 105 $\frac{1}{2}$ , fell to 103, a decline of 4 per cent. since yesterday; the 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  per Cents. fell even more, dropping to 85. Peruvian were weaker, at 65 and 66. Mexicans were done at 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Spanish Deferred as low as 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ . In Dutch Stocks the fall was also very heavy; three per cent. on the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. Bonds, and as much as five per cent. on the 4 per Cent. Bonds.

The Railway Market has partaken of the general depression. The fall in French shares has been especially severe, consequent upon the panic in Paris. The Great Northerns are 10s. to 11 lower. Great Westerns about 11. Lancashire and Yorkshire have been steady at from 61 to 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ . North Westerns 100, Brightons, 97 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 97 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Great Westerns, after touching 80, have dropped to 79. Midlands have ranged from 59 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Shrewsbury and Birmingham keep up a 55. Berwicks, which stood at 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ , have fallen to 60.



Paris and Lyons shares are 10s, but other French shares little altered. Belgian and East Indian shares have been well-supported.

In Mines there is no feature to notice. Bank Shares were scarcely touched. London Dock Stock was £1 lower, and Land Companies Shares rather weaker.

From all the other leading bourses of Europe the telegraph brings intelligence of the existence of a species of panic. The downward movement in Austrian stock is especially rapid. The present aspect of the Austrian and French money markets confirms expectation. It is to be apprehended that in neither case has the worst yet been seen.

A rumour has been circulated on the Paris Bourse that the expenses of the war against Russia are to be met by a joint loan of £16,000,000 sterling to England and France. This loan, it is said, is to be issued at 78, as a medium between the prices of the French Treasuries and the English Consols. Such an arrangement would doubtless suit the various financial houses on both sides, eager for commissions, but, except in the wishes of these persons, it can certainly have no foundation. The chief cause of the calm confidence with which the people of England look upon the struggle on which they are about to enter is (says the *Times*) the conviction that the experience of the last war, and the subsequent spread of clear economical views, will prevent all attempts to provide the cost by unsound expedients of any kind. The Russian Government are said to have resolved upon an increase of £9,500,000 in their paper circulation, to meet the cost of the armaments in progress. At the same time, to prevent the distrust that might thus be occasioned, statements are given out that the specie in the citadel at St. Petersburg amounts to £22,500,000, while the existing paper circulation does not exceed £35,000,000.

The trade reports for the past week from the manufacturing towns indicate the existence of that kind of steadiness most desirable in the present position of political affairs. At Manchester the market has been quiet, and a slight tendency to lower prices may serve as an additional warning to the operatives "out upon strike" as to the prospects of their contest. From Birmingham the accounts of the wonderful activity of the iron trade continue without variation, and the consumption of pig-iron is stated to be 20 or 25 per cent. in excess of the make. The prosperity of the general business of the town is likewise maintained, especially in the articles that furnish the best test of the general manufacturing and agricultural progress of the kingdom—namely, tools and implements of husbandry. The Nottingham advices show less animation than had been anticipated, the lace trade particularly being one that suffers from the effects of dear food, in limiting the demand for things merely of ornament. In the woollen districts there has been a good average business at firm prices, but from Bradford the reports of the worsted manufacture are still unfavourable. Both in the Yorkshire and Irish linen-markets the transactions have been rather large, and prospects are encouraging.

The departures for the Australian colonies from the port of London during the past week show a decrease. They have comprised altogether six vessels—three to Adelaide, with an aggregate burden of 2,088 tons; two to Port Phillip, with an aggregate burden of 432 tons; and one to Sydney, of 355 tons. Their total capacity was consequently 2,875 tons. The rates of freight exhibit a tendency to decline.

In the general business of the port of London during the past week, although the entries inward have diminished, there has been much activity, the vessels arriving being of a large class. The number of ships reported was 147, being 86 less than in the previous week; and the total quantity of goods brought was 31,948 barrels and 960 sacks, together with 18,399 quarters of wheat, nearly the whole of which was from America. Of sugar there were reported 3,190 hhds., 1,000 casks, 42,940 bags, and 419 cases; of tea 37,146 packages, and of coffee 1,951 bags and 27 barrels. The number of vessels cleared outward was 88, being an increase of 12 over the previous week. Of these, 27 were in ballast, and 6 for the Australian colonies, as above stated. The number of vessels on the berth loading for those colonies is 89, being an increase of 16 over the number loading on the 22nd ult. Of this total, 9 are for Adelaide, 7 for Geelong, 8 for Hobart Town, 3 for Launceston, 11 for Melbourne, 5 for New Zealand, 19 for Port Phillip, 25 for Sydney, and 1 for Swan River.

## The Gazette.

Friday, January 20th, 1854.

### BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 14th day of January, 1854.

#### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	29,383,840	Government Debt	11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	15,383,840
		Silver Bullion	—
	£29,383,840		£29,383,840

#### BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietor's Capital	14,552,000	Government Securities	—
Reserve	3,295,813	Dead Weight Annuity	13,644,025
Public Deposits	3,213,993	Other Securities	14,663,295
Other Deposits	14,140,492	Notes	7,443,015
Seven Day and other Bills	1,232,329	Gold and Silver Coin	685,292
	£26,435,627		£26,435,627

Including Exchequer, Savings-Banks, Commissioners National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered

for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to the Act of the 6th and 7th William IV. c. lxxxv. :—  
Congregational Church, Winchester. J. Ventham, superintendent-registrar.  
St. Godrie's Chapel, Thornley, Durham. T. C. Beatty, superintendent-registrar.

### BANKRUPTS.

B. MILLER, Landport, Southampton, mercer; solicitors, Messrs. Sole, Turner, and Turner, Aldermanbury.  
G. NEWMAN, Stratford-place, Camden-town, builder; solicitors, Messrs. Laurence, Smith, and Fawdon, Broad-street, Cheapside.  
J. H. SWEET, Tonbridge Wells, Kent, seedsman; solicitor, Mr. Pawle, New-Inn, Strand.  
H. WINTON, H. J. L. WINTON, and E. W. WINTON, Birmingham, agricultural implement makers; solicitor, Mr. Wright, Birmingham.

W. T. WARREN, M. WARREN, and O. DENROCHE, Cardiff, Glamorgan-shire, contractors; solicitors, Messrs. Savery, Clark, and Fussell, Bristol.

G. K. KENT, Taunton, Somersetshire, plumber; solicitor, Mr. Frenchard, Taunton.

C. J. POOLE, Bridgewater, Somersetshire, baker; solicitor, Mr. Smith, jun., Bridgewater.

W. HESKETH, Blackburn, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer; solicitor, Mr. Wilkinson, Blackburn.

J. WORLEY, Macclesfield, Cheshire, cabinet-maker; solicitor, Mr. Taylor, Manchester.

### SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

W. KING, Glenpatrick, Renfrewshire, distiller.

### DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

D. NUTT, Stratford-green, Essex, dealer, first dividend of 6d. in the pound, payable at 18, Aldermanbury, on any Monday. J. Hatfield, Manchester, cotton-spinner, first dividend of 1s. 3d. in the pound, payable at 76, George-street, Manchester, on any Tuesday. J. BOWKER, Hyde, Cheshire, innkeeper, first dividend of 6d. in the pound, payable at 45, George-street, Manchester, on Tuesday, January 31, and any subsequent Tuesday. R. JOHNSTON, Macclesfield, Cheshire, silk manufacturer, first dividend of 2s. 3d. in the pound, payable at 45, George-street, Manchester, on Tuesday, January 31, and any subsequent Tuesday. C. S. FLOOD and H. B. LOTT, Honiton, Devonshire, bankers, a further dividend of 6d. in the pound, and a further dividend of 2s. in the pound on the separate estate of C. S. Flood, payable at the office of Mr. H. L. Hirtzel, Queen-street, Exeter, on any Tuesday or Friday. J. FIDDIAM, Newark-upon-Trent, currier, first dividend of 6s. in the pound, payable at the office of Mr. J. Harris, Middle-pavement, Nottingham, on Saturday, January 28, and three subsequent Saturdays. T. S. CATLIN, Leicester, grocer, first dividend of 8s. in the pound, payable at the office of Mr. J. Harris, Middle-pavement, Nottingham, on Saturday, January 21, and three subsequent Saturdays.

Tuesday, January 24th.

### BANKRUPTS.

HENRY JACKSON, Eton, Buckinghamshire, hennedrazer; solicitors, Messrs. Deane and Austin, Lawrence-lane, City.

EMILE DUNIN, Westbourne-terrace, Hyde-park, machinist; solicitor, Mr. Colomine, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square.

HENRY CLARE THOMPSON, Woolwich, Kent, surgeon; solicitor, Mr. Carter, Greenwich.

JAMES COWDEROY, Hammersmith, omnibus proprietor; solicitors, Messrs. Selby and Mackeson, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

SAMUEL GODFREY MOULTON SCOWEN, Wood-Street, Cheapside, warehouseman; solicitor, Mr. Pain, Gresham-street, City.

GEORGE HAINES, Kingstonsley, Gloucestershire, mealman; solicitor, Mr. Wilke, Gloucester.

WILLIAM MUNRO DUFFIELD, Heavitree, Devonshire, commission-agent; solicitor, Mr. Terrell, Exeter.

WILLIAM BIRKETT, Manningham, Yorkshire, soap manufacturer; solicitors, Messrs. Taylor, Bradford and Blackburn, Leeds.

ROBERT MILNER, Doncaster, Yorkshire, hatter; solicitor, Mr. Fisher, Doncaster.

### BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

Oct. 21.—JOHN DAWSON, Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex, surgeon.

### SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

JOHN THOMSON, Glasgow, mason.

JOHN HENDRIE, Inverness, builder.

ALEXANDER LILLIE, Banff, merchant.

SAMUEL M'KEE, Girvan, Ayrshire, grocer.

### DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Edward Hollingworth, Staley, Cheshire, woollen manufacturer, second dividend of 2d. in the pound, payable at Mr. Pott's, Manchester, on Tuesday, February 7, and any subsequent Tuesday. James Fish, Helmsford, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer, first dividend of 14s. 2d. in the pound payable at Mr. Pott's Manchester, on Tuesday, January 31, and any subsequent Tuesday. William Bradshaw, Birmingham, victualler, first dividend of 2s. 1d. in the pound, payable at Mr. Christie's, Birmingham, on any Thursday. Joseph Pigginn, and Frederic Pigginn, Wolverhampton, shoe manufacturers, first dividend of 1s. 10d. in the pound, payable at Mr. Whitmore's, Birmingham, on any Thursday.

## Markets.

MARK-LANE, MONDAY, January 23, 1854.

The weather since Friday has been very mild, with south-westerly wind, and last night rain and frost. The supply of English Wheat to this morning's market was very small, and its condition generally bad; the best was disposed of on the terms of sale, but the inferior qualities were difficult of sale. The market was well attended by country buyers of foreign Wheat, who were checked in their purchases at the opening by the high pretensions of holders; and subsequently a retail business only resulted, at an improvement of 1s. to 2s. per qr. upon our quotations of Monday last. A good demand was experienced for Wheat for early shipment from the Lower Baltic. Malt and Barley, with the exception of the finest parcels, is 1s. per qr. cheaper. Grinding and distilling unaltered in value. Beans and Peas are a dull sale at last week's prices. Oats meet a fair sale at late rates. For barrel Flour there is a good demand at the extreme prices of last week.

### BAITISH.

Wheat—	s.	d.	Wheat—	s.	d.
Essex and Kent, Red (new)	72	83	Dantzic	81	92
Ditto White	77	90	Konigsberg, Red	79	86
Linc., Norfolk, & Yorkshire Red	68	82	Pomeranian, Red	80	85
Barley malt (new)	44	48	Rostock	85	92
Distilling (new)	41	42	Selestan	78	85
Malt—			Danish & Holstein	77	82
Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk (new)	68	71	Rhine & Belgium		
Kingston, Ware, & Town made	72	74	Odessa, St. Petersburg		
Rye	42	50	and Riga	70	76
Beans, Mazagan	42	50	Barley	35	43
Ticks	46	54	Oats—		
Harrow	46	54	Dutch and Poland	30	32
Pigeon	46	54	Danish & Swedish	30	32
Peas, White	62	65	Russian	30	32
Maple	48	50	Beans—		
Boilers	62	65	Friesland & Holstein	46	50
Flour, town made, per sack, of 280 lbs.	67	72	Konigsberg	49	52
Households	68	72	Peas, feeding	53	57
Northfolk and Suffolk	63	65	Boilers	60	65
			Indian Corn white	47	50
			Yellow	47	50
			Flour—		
			American sour	33	42
			Sweet	44	47

### BUTCHERS' MEAT, SMITHFIELD, MONDAY, January 23.

The receipts of Beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts were extensive, and there was a decided improvement in their general weight. Owing to the mildness of the weather, and the large supplies of meat on offer in Newgate and Leadenhall, the Beef trade ruled heavy, at a decline in the prices of Monday last of 2d. per 8 lbs. The top figure for the best Scots was

4s. 6d. per 8 lbs. Notwithstanding that the supply of Sheep was limited, the demand for that description of stock was in a sluggish state. In prices, however, no change took place. The best old Downs sold at 5s. 2d. per 8 lbs. Very few Calves were on offer, and the quotations of Veal were very irregular. Inferior Calves sold at from 3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.; prime do., 5s. to 5s. 6d. per 8 lbs. We had rather a dull sale for Pigs, the supply of which was moderate, on former terms.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal.)

Coarse and inferior	s.	d.	s.	d.	Prime coarse wool-	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beasts	3	2	3	4	led Sheep	4	6	4	8
Second quality do.	3	6	3	8	Prime South Down				
Prime large Oxen	3	10	4	2	Sheep	4	10	5	2
Prime Scots, &c.	4	4	4	6	Large coarse Calves	3	10	4	10
Coarse and inferior					Prime small do.	5	0	5	6
Sheep	3	2	3	6	Large Hogs	3	0	4	2
Second quality do.	3	8	4	4	Nest small Porkers	4	4	4	10
Suckling Calves, 22s. to 29s.; and quarter-old store Pigs, 21s. to 27s. each.									

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, January 23.—Since our last report, large supplies of Meat have come to hand from various distant parts of the country, in good condition; and we continue to be well supplied with each description slaughtered in London. Although a good business is doing, the trade is far from active, on the following terms:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

Inferior Beef	s.	d.	s.	d.	Inferior Mutton	s.	d.	s.	d.
Middling do.	2	10	3	2	Middling do.	3	0	3	2
Prime large do.	3	8	3	10	Prime do.	3	8	4	2
Do. small do.	4	0	4	2	Veal	3	10	5	0
Large Pork	3	4	4	2	Small Pork	4	4	5	0

PROVISIONS, London, Monday, January 23.—There was nothing of importance passing in Irish Butter last week; the dealings were on a limited scale, prices nominal, and, towards the close, holders offered some kinds at a reduction of 1s. to 2s. Dutch was 4s. to 6s., and Kiel 2s. lower. The demand was mostly on such descriptions of foreign as ranged from 8ss. to 92s. per cwt. For Bacon there was a ready sale, and in some instances at an advance of 1s. Hams, prime and small, in request; other sizes dull. Lard easier to sell, and the turn dearer.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

Friesland	per cwt.	104 to 106	Cheshire (new)	64 to 80
Kiel	104	110	Cheddar	66 to 80
Dorset (new)	106	114	Double Gloucester	64 to 72
Carlisle do.	102	108	Single do.	64 to 70
Waterford do.	98	102	York Hams (new)	74 to 84
Cork do.	100	104	Westmorland do.	70 to 80
Limerick do.	92	108	Irish do.	66 to 74
Sligo do.	100	106	Wiltshire Bacon (green)	66 to 68
Fresh Butter per doz.	15	18	Waterford Bacon	64 to 60

BREAD. The prices of Wheat Bread in the Metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; and Household do., 10½d. to 10¾d. per 4lbs. loaf.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELD, Monday, January 23.—A fair average supply of Potatoes has come to hand since Monday last, chiefly per railway. The imports have been small, viz., 59 tons from Belfast, 2 from Limerick, and 6 baskets from Harlingen. A good business is doing, as follows:—Kent and Essex Regents, 100s. to 180s.; Scotch ditto, 140s. to 160s.; ditto Cups, 120s. to 140s. per ton.

HAY AND STRAW, per load of 35 trusses, SMITHFIELD, Monday, January 23.—Hay, £4 to £5 10s.; Clover, £4 15s. to £5 6s.; Straw, £1 12s. to £2 2s.

HOPS.—There is now an active demand for every description, both of old and new, and the market has quite recovered from the languid state that occurred about Christmas. Prices are very firm, at former rates.

COALS, Monday, January 23.—Market heavy, in the anticipation of the arrival of 420 ships at sea. Stewarts, 43s.; Adels, 43s.; South Durham, 42s. 6d.; Heugh Hall, 42s.; Hartley, 40s.; Whitworth, 40s. Ships, 46, barges 10—Total, 56.

METALS, LONDON, Saturday, January 21.—Scotch iron is in fair request, at 75s. for mixed numbers. Manufactured parcels move off steadily, at full prices. Spelter is firm, at £21 10s. to £25 per ton. Tin is firm, and Banca has changed hands of 131s. Copper and Lead are very firm.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, January 23.—The scales of cotton to-day are estimated at from 4,000 to 5,000 bales, and comprise 150 Mearns, and Pernham, 64d. to 7d.; 200 Egyptian, 64d. to 8d.; 1,200 Surats, 2d. to 3d.; 10 Sea Island; and the remainder American. The imports since Thursday last are 5,000. The market closed heavily. American new cotton is offered freely at 5½d. to 6½d., but the demand is but small.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of wool into London last week were 1,828 bales, of which 540 were from Port Phillip, 124 from the Mauritius, 943 from Bombay, 54 from China, 30 from Italy, 62 from Mogadore, and the rest from Denmark, Italy, &c. The colonial wool sales will commence on the 9th of next month, and about 40,000 bales are expected to be offered. The British wool market continues steady, and prices are well supported. The demand is chiefly confined to home use, and the supplies offering are very moderate.

S. Down Hoggets	1	4	1	6½	Combing skins	1	0	1	4
Half-bred ditto	1	4	1	5	Flannel wool	1	0	1	5
Ewes, clothing	1	1	1	3	Blanket wool	0	8	1	0
Kent fleeces	1	2	1	4	Leicester fleeces	1	2	1	4

The business done in Scotch wool at Liverpool has been fair at late rates.

TALLOW, London, January 22.—The following are the particulars of Tallow:—

	1852.	1853.	1854.
Stock	59,244	43,748	41,248
Delivery last week	2,643	2,045	2,335
Ditto from 1st June	73,056	68,444	70,003
Arrival last week	1,355	1,523	269
Ditto from 1st June	95,766	71,564	87,936
Price Y.C. per cwt.	36s. 3d.	45s. 6d.	62s. 9d.
Do. Town	39s. 6d.	47s. 3d.	64s. 0d.

The market has been much excited by political events, and is very firm in all positions. Town tallow is quoted 61s. 6d. net cash; Petersburg Y.C. on the spot, 65s.; Jan. to March, 64s. 3d.; March to April, 64s. 6d.

COVENT GARDEN, SATURDAY, January 21.—The weather having again become favourable, Vegetables are supplied in great abundance, and Fruit is also sufficient for the demand. Late Grapes are very good. Pears consist of Glout Moreau, Chant-montel, Buerre d'Hiver, Monsieur le Cure, Winter Crassane, Easter Buerre, and Ne Plus Meuris. Among Desert Apples are good samples of Ribston Pippin, Old Nonpareil, and Newton Pippin. Chestnuts are plentiful. Potatoes have not advanced in price since our last report. Asparagus is coming in at from 8s. to 10s. per hundred, and Seakale at from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per punnet. Carrots and Turnips are cheaper. Mushrooms are scarce. Cut flowers consist of Camellias, Azaleas, Cyclamens, Heaths, Hyacinths, Tulips, and Roses.

### HIDE AND SKIN—SATURDAY, January 21.

50	Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs	.	.	0	2½	0	0	per lb.
50	Ditto 64 to 72 lbs	.	.	0	2½	0	3	"
42	Ditto 72 to 80 lbs	.	.	0	3	0	3½	"
47	Ditto 80 to 88 lbs	.	.	0	3½	0	3½	"
	Ditto 88 to 96 lbs	.	.	0	3½	0	4	"
	Ditto 96 to 104 lbs	.	.	0	2½	0	4½	"
icks	Horse Hides	.	.	6	6	0	0	each,
heir	Calf Skins, light	.	.	2	0	3	6	"
the	Ditto full	.	.	6	6	0	0	"
hall,	Polled Sheep	.	.	8	0	9	6	"
oday	Kents and Half-breeds	.	.	7	0	8	6	"
was	Downs	.	.	5	3	6	3	"



FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE IRONS.

—Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit WILLIAM S. BURTON'S SHOW-ROOMS, 39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-st.), Nos. 1 and 2, Newman-street, and 4 and 5, Perry's-place. They are the largest in the world, and contain such an assortment of FENDERS STOVES, RANGES, FIRE IRONS, and GENERAL IRONMONGERY, as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright Stoves, with bronzed ornaments and two sets of bars, £2 14s. to £5 10s.; ditto with ornolu ornaments and two sets of bars, £5 10s. to £12 12s.; Bronzed Fenders complete, with standards, from 7s. to £3; Steel Fenders from £2 15s. to £6; ditto, with rich ornolu ornaments, from £2 15s. to £7 7s.; Fire-irons, from 1s. 9d. the set to £4 4s. Sylvester, and all other Patent Stoves, with radiating hearth-plates; all which he is enabled to sell at these very reduced charges—

First—From the frequency and extent of his purchases; and Secondly—From those purchases being made exclusively for cash.

**CUTLERY WARRANTED.**—The most varied assortment of TABLE CUTLERY in the world, all warranted, is on sale at WILLIAM BURTON'S, at prices which are remunerative only because of the largeness of the sales. 34-inch Ivory-handled Table Knives, with high shoulders, 11s. per dozen; Desserts to match, 10s.; if to balance, 1s. per dozen extra; Carvers, 4s. per pair; larger sizes, from 14s. 6d. to 23s. 6d.; extra fine, ivory, 32s.; if with silver ferrules, 37s. 6d. 50s.; white bone Table Knives, 7s. 6d. per dozen; Desserts, 5s. 6d.; Carvers, 2s. 3d. per pair; black horn Table Knives, 7s. 4d. per dozen; Desserts, 6s.; Carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled Table Knives and Forks, 6s. per dozen; Table Steels, from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated Dessert Knives and Forks, in cases and otherwise, and of the new plated Fish Carvers. Also a large assortment of Razors, Penknives, Scissors, &c., of the best quality.

LAMPS of all SORTS and PATTERNS.

—The largest, as well as the choicest assortment in existence of PALMER'S MAGNUM and other LAMPS, CAMPHIRE, ARGAND, SOLAR, and MODERATEUR LAMPS, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most recherché patterns, in ornolu, Bohemian, and plain glass, or papier mache, is at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, and they are arranged in one large room, so that the patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly selected.

PALMER'S CANDLES, 8½d. a pound. Palmer's Patent Candles, all marked "Palmer."

Single or double wicks..... 8½d. per pound.  
Mid. size, 3 wicks..... 9d. ditto.  
Magnams, 3 or 4 wicks..... 9½d. ditto.  
English Patent Camphire, in sealed cans 5s. 9d. per gallon.  
Best Colza Oil..... 4s. ditto.

**THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE for SILVER.**—The REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced twenty years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when PLATED by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is, beyond all comparison, the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Thread or Brunswick Pattern.	King's Pattern.
Tea Spoons, per dozen.....	18s.	26s.	32s.
Dessert Forks.....	30s.	40s.	46s.
Dessert Spoons.....	30s.	42s.	48s.
Table Forks.....	40s.	56s.	64s.
Table Spoons.....	40s.	58s.	66s.

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The Directors of the London Missionary Society have been greatly encouraged, in their proposed increase of Missionaries in China, by the liberal contributions of generous friends, as well as by the numerous promises of Congregational Collections on Lord's-day, the 22nd inst.

They have, however, ascertained, as might have been expected, that in consequence of previous engagements, many of their friends will be unable to make special collections on that particular Sabbath; but the Directors, nevertheless, trust that EVERY CONGREGATION, in every city, town, and village of the empire, will embrace the earliest practicable period (and if possible, before the close of April) of giving this proof of their zeal and compassion for the perishing millions of China.

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ARTHUR TIDMAN, Secs.  
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